Our God Reigns!

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Let Freedom Ring

By the time you read this, our nation will have already celebrated Independence Day and likely we all heard much mention of “freedom” around July 4th. Certainly, we appreciate the many freedoms we are blessed with in America, especially freedom of religion. However, what good ultimately is political freedom if one’s life is in bondage to sin? How thankful we can be for Jesus Christ who did “bind up the brokenhearted” and “proclaim liberty to the captives.” Isaiah 61:1. The hymn writer aptly wrote:

“He breaks the power of canceled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me.”

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

So let us rejoice in the costly liberty purchased for us by Jesus’s sacrifice on the cross. And let us remember, “brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.” Galatians 5:13

Gratefully His,
Rick Plattner and Tom Stock, counseling elders
Doctrinal Principles

Theme verse: *For if by one man’s offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.*

There exists no other religion, doctrine or system of beliefs such as contained in the Christian Bible, God’s Holy Word. God’s Word is true, eternal and perfect. It provides us with all the information we need to find our salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. Even though His Word is so complete and comprehensive, a relatively few fundamental truths or doctrinal principles make up its basis. An understanding of these doctrinal principles provides the believer with a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

The first principle is our belief in the existence of one eternal God, the Creator of all things. *Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.*

God exists in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. His perfection and Holiness are complete. *Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.*

God’s crowning achievement was to create man in His own image for the express purpose of bringing Him pleasure through the fulfillment of His will. God fully intended that mankind would be holy as He is Holy.

Sadly, the next doctrinal principle is our inheritance of a sinful nature when our first parents succumbed to the temptation of Satan in the Garden of Eden; *wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.* It is not possible for a perfect and Holy God to tolerate any sin; and the result is that our sin separates us from Him; but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Because of man’s sin, God introduced His divine Law, and commanded Moses and Aaron to go unto the altar, and offer thy sin offering, and thy burnt offering, and make an atonement for thyself, and for the people. Specifically, it was the blood of the sacrifice that appeased God; *for the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.*

The Law provided a means of forgiveness for the sins committed by God’s people, but the indwelling sin nature remained which resulted in man’s repetition of sin. *For the law…can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.* The true desire of God has always been steadfast obedience to His Word; and Samuel said, *Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD?  Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.*

While the Law defined sin and served as our schoolmaster, it clearly aroused the need for a better Sacrifice through a new and better covenant or testament. Jesus Christ became the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. However, in order to become effective a testament (will) requires the death of the testator, and Christ the perfect Lamb of God willingly gave His life’s blood on the cross as a worthy sacrifice for our sins. Faith in the shed blood of Christ on Calvary results in repentance, which is the beginning of a true Christian life. The blood of Christ covers the sins we have committed and allows our sinful nature to be changed. He freely gives us His enabling grace and seals the Holy Spirit of promise in our hearts.

— Please turn to pg. 63
Sermon by Bro. Earl Beery, Rittman, OH

Isaiah 60:1-9 & 1 Timothy 2

I certainly want to greet each of you in the name of Jesus Christ our crucified and risen Lord. That may be a phrase we use or a thought we have, or it's really the essence of our salvation - that Jesus died on the cross, He shed His blood. It was pure, and it was innocent. He paid the price for our sin, and while that was very monumental in and of itself, He also was victorious over grave. He rose again. That event changed the thinking of the whole world. There are many events that occurred from that time. The church was established. Then some number of years ago, or maybe it was weeks ago, we found ourselves in sin - lost! Tonight we can say we're redeemed. We can say it's because of the shed blood of Jesus Christ, Him crucified and resurrected.

We come together with that faith, don't we? Those thoughts are sobering. They're foundational, they're basic, and yet they cause us to rejoice because we're so fortunate. We're so blessed. Now we journey towards heaven day by day, hour by hour, and here we are tonight. We've come to worship God, worship our Creator, the author and finisher of our faith, the author of all of this. Here we are and if we follow Him and stay in His grace and follow His Word, He'll sustain us to finish the work. That's the hope we have! That's a wonderful thing! We can be so thankful. That's the life we have, that's the opportunity we have, that's the grace we have, that's the promise in God's Word that we all have. So what I might say to you, I would say to myself first. With all those thoughts now, what do I do about today? Does that change how we think about today, what happened today, what's happening tomorrow? Maybe it does. So we come together, and it helps us feed on the Word. It reminds us of God and His Word and His promises for our life, whatever today was, whatever tomorrow might be.

So I beg for your prayers. I pray God will be with us as we look into His Word that we might read, meditate, worship together and that each one of us has prayed that the Word of God and inspiration of the Holy Spirit could feed us, inspire us, and increase our faith. The presence of the Holy Spirit, as you well know, is in two forms. It's the form of the preaching, and it's in the form of the hearing. As the Bread of Life is broken, each of us can take those words, those thoughts, the Scripture, what the Holy Spirit adds to each one of us, and we can be fed and inspired by listening.

"...thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD... darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people..." Then it says 'but'. "...but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee." (Isaiah 60:1-2) So those are the conditions. Certainly here it's talking about the future, but we can think of it in the light of our lives. So maybe we might take something that feels difficult, is challenging, and we might think about it as we can see it or perceive it and say it's darkness. It's just plain hard! Or we can say this gross or intense darkness was over the people, maybe in our hearts, our minds, our thoughts. So what we see and how we can think about it, this feels like darkness. We probably have some circumstances like that - situations where there's just not clear vision, there's just not understanding, we don't know the future, we're not sure how it's going to work out. We may even ask why at times. Whatever might be darkness for us — think about that. Indentify what that is in your life, something you carry with you or each of us carries with us. It may be more than one thing.

The word 'but' negates everything before it. I agree with you, but... I love you, but.... You're right, but.... Whenever we use that word, the phrase before it tends
to be negated with what we’re going to give exception to following ‘but’. That’s a negative sense. This is a positive one! There’s darkness around and there’s darkness in our lives, situations we struggle with — so they are, but... “but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee” So the Lord’s faithful. So given all the circumstances of the day, we have Jesus Christ. We have the Word. We have the promise of God. He will “arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee”. We shall feel it; we’ll know it.

God will be there for us. Matter of fact, He’ll go before us and prepare the way. It’s based on our faith because it’s about Jesus Christ, His shed blood, Him crucified and risen again. Was it dark for Him on the cross? Was it dark for Him when He said and cried out, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46) Was it dark? Matter of fact, it was so dark that in the middle of the day, it turned to night. Darkness was over the earth, but He rose again. That promise is for us for our salvation, for heaven, for hope, for peace. That’s for eternity. That’s the promise for us today, tonight, tomorrow. Whatever is in our life — there’s hope, there’s promise, there’s light because He’s given us that faith!

It would be very interesting to know what each of you is thinking right now, what your prayer is, what your thought is, what your need is, what God speaks to you, what He speaks to all of us. Let’s prayerfully consider some of these verses because they’re about us. So here’s the first instruction. “I exhort therefore” - strongly encourage, highly recommend — “that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;” (1 Timothy 2:1) That’s a commandment. So these phrases of supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men, are kind of all the same. I suppose we could take each one and look for distinctions. A supplication may be a little stronger than a prayer; we’re begging God. An intercession is really on the behalf of someone else that God would intercede for them. Giving of thanks for all men, all people.

He makes a list. He says, “For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.” (v.2) So this is the audience — all kings and all people that are in authority. Kings are those governmental things, people, offices, positions that we might say have authority to maneuver the behaviors of countries and make laws. It says we should pray for them and be thankful for them and intercede for them.

But then he says, “and for all that are in authority”. Authority is really an interesting word. Who are all the people in your life or my life that are in authority? It’s not just the government; it’s not just the police officer. It’s the person that gets to the four-way stop before you do because they have the authority or permission to go first and you go second. It’s the person at the check-out who is doing the check-out work that has the authority to take your money, your payment, for the goods. It’s the person who sends you the bill who has the authority to ask you to pay for that bill. It’s the person in the workplace who might be a supervisor or someone who manages our time or our priorities or our work. Or it might just be somebody, anybody who asks us a question because they are asking us to fulfill. They have maybe a soft sense of authority, but they are asking us a question and have permission or authority to do that. So there are things all around us.

We could talk a long time about the church. The authority of God given to the church is executed in probably a lot of forms, but two come to mind — those that watch for our souls, those that guide us and warn us. They have authority over us. God given. What about the authority we have has brothers and sisters toward each other? Call it an obligation, call it a requirement, call it our brother’s keeper, first of
“I See Jesus”

Generosity of Volunteers Restores Woman’s Faith

Among the thousands of people affected by the devastating tornado that ripped through Vilonia, Arkansas in April of 2014, is a lady whose home was not hit by the storm, but whose life was greatly impacted in a very positive way. Yolanda’s house was spared from the powerful winds that destroyed many homes and businesses in the area. The place of her employment was totally destroyed from a direct hit by the tornado. This left her without a job – at least close to home. Fortunately, another branch of the company, some thirty miles away, was able to provide employment for Yolanda. However, the cost of driving more than sixty miles each day put added stress on her already stretched budget.

The house that Yolanda had lived in for the past thirty years was in great need of repair. Living on a minimal income, she was not able to maintain her home and its continuing need for more repairs was troubling for her. Known by her neighbors as a person who would do anything to help someone in need, Yolanda was not the type of person who would ask for any assistance for herself. While World Relief was working in the community to provide assistance for tornado victims, several of Yolanda’s neighbors asked if there was something that could be done to help her. Although she was not a direct tornado victim, she was definitely disadvantaged as a result of the storm. After investigating, a decision was made to build her a new one-bedroom house. When this was shared with Yolanda, tears flowed down her cheeks as she struggled to comprehend the message that a new house would be built for her. “This is too good to be true, there’s got to be a catch!” she said.

Within a few days, work began on this one thousand square-foot house. The slab was poured and within one week the house was up, roofed and fully enclosed. “Every day God has showed up in people,” is the way Yolanda described the action. “I see Jesus in everybody that has ever come to work on my house,” she continued. Work on this house began the last week of February and was completed in just five weeks. The gratitude to God that Yolanda expresses is heartwarming. “God has built this house and it’s not going to be in vain,” she exclaims. Yolanda hopes to serve others from the house that God has provided for her.

Building this house for Yolanda is just a small part of the blessing that God gave her through this experience. She has seen Jesus in the flesh as volunteers from across the country came and served – sacrificing for someone they didn’t even know. Only God knows the blessings that others will receive as they are served in turn by Yolanda. God’s economy is so different from what we experience in this life.

The volunteers who came to serve have undoubtedly all left feeling blessed for having been willing to serve. We cannot out give God!

“And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water…he shall in no wise lose his reward.” Matt.10:42

This experience has been a faith-builder for Yolanda. Life for her had been difficult. A divorce...
Teaching Life Skills and the Gospel to Deaf Youth

The vision statement for our AC ministry team in Jamaica is to see God glorified by our obedience and love for each other and by transformed lives, resulting in a healthy body of believers. In order to accomplish this, our mission is centered on living and sharing the Gospel and making disciples, with emphasis to the Deaf community. While we have partnered with existing ministries in Jamaica during our first 8 years of full-time service God has gradually been opening doors for our missionaries to pursue new opportunities to fulfill our vision. It is generally accepted that it takes between 5-10 years before a cross-cultural ministry can truly take root and start bearing fruit.

Our team would agree that this is a fairly accurate assessment and encourages us that ministry built on relationship and discipleship always takes time and perseverance, and we are beginning to see the Lord add the increase to the time invested. We are also blessed to have Sis. Tashi (Blake) Widmer as a member of our team, herself being a Deaf Jamaican, providing a tremendous source of cultural insight and understanding. Recently we were granted charitable status for our Jamaican NGO, thus providing the vessel through which we can grow and branch out.

One of the groups our team is most burdened to reach by living and sharing the Gospel are Deaf teens, specifically the teen boys at the CCCD Kingston campus. A half dozen boys are scheduled to graduate in June and the uncertainty of their futures has been of great concern to us. When discussing what their next steps are after school, many of them don’t know or revert to something that a previous graduate has done, such as going on to a vocational school or trying to get a job at a grocery store. However, these are not their true dreams but rather what they are settling for in life, which hinders any discipleship efforts seeking to lead them to a healthy, reconciled life. Their passion and gifting lies in areas such as an auto mechanic, a baker, a business owner or a computer programmer but too often they lack the belief that they can achieve these things. As our team has spent the last several years immersing themselves in the culture and seeking to ascertain the root problems, we have found it easiest to explain the reason for this LACK as an acrostic.

• Language limitations
• Attitudes that do not affirm
• Culture that corrupts
• Knowledge that confuses and does not edify

For most Deaf children they are born into a family of hearing people who do not know sign language and often do not get exposed to signing until they enter school at age 5 or later, which severely impacts their cognitive development and leads to a weak foundation in language. They also face a very negative environment, both at home and in public, where Deaf people are called “dummy” and looked down upon and excluded. These negative attitudes eventually become reality and our students begin to accept the lie that they can’t and aren’t quite

--- Please turn to pg. 65 ---
“Seeds of goodness we are sowing, In the hearts of man today. Bless it Lord that it may prosper, And bear fruit for harvest day. Now the field is ripe for harvest; Let us then all garner in; For if we should stand here idle, Who would bring the sheaves of grain?”

The Golden Harvest, Hymns of Zion, #46 vs. 1 & 3

In the 1840’s, Ft. Scott was erected as a military fort in Kansas. Named after General Winfield Scott, a presidential candidate, the fort played a huge role in U.S. history during the Westward Expansion, Bleeding Kansas and the Civil War.

When the unrest died down, a few German families began moving to farms in the Ft. Scott area between 1893-94. These farmers were the first recorded Apostolic Christian believers who started sowing the seeds of the gospel in the area. They met in homes until 1921 when they purchased a building in town from the Presbyterian Church. Before they could meet, however, they needed to take down the bell and steeple from the roof as this was considered too “worldly” at the time. While these first families came in search of a better life, they found that living in the Kansas area proved to be difficult, and many had issues making ends meet. Despite the hardships, God helped them persevere. In 1967, they constructed a new church building at 1615 South Horton Street, where they still meet today.

Through the Lord giving the increase to the “planting” of the seeds, the congregation has grown to 60-70 people who range in age from infants to 87 years old. Services are held on Sunday and Wednesday evenings, and the gospel message is preached through two resident ministers—Bro. Larry Bahr and Bro. Jeff Fischer. Visiting ministers also come once a month as part of the minister rotation program. The congregation is blest to have elder leadership through Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, Mo.) Further blessings abound through the beautiful voices of the congregation that harmonize in singing during the worship services. The closest supporting churches are in Kansas City and Lamar, Missouri.

Visitors who come to the church today will find that the building is basically the same with the exception of an addition done in the mid 80’s to provide a larger fellowship area. A little known fact is that the baptismal tank is located underneath the pulpit.

Since the fields are ripe for harvest in the Ft. Scott area (as in all of our communities), the congregation is involved in several outreach opportunities. The members sing at 3 nursing homes and enjoy visiting and building relationships with the residents. They also hold potlucks and dinners, and on the 3rd Sunday of each month have a song service. For the children, Vacation Bible School is held in June as well as a Sunday School picnic. A church wiener roast is held in the fall.

While the majority of the people in the congregation are not farmers today, they work in various other occupations and are able to share the gospel with those they come in contact. Many are involved in the printing industry while others work in the medical field in a hospital or a local clinic, accounting, insurance and manufacturing. Some of the Apostolic Christian Hymn books and the Marching to Zion books are printed locally by...

— Please turn to pg. 69
Psalm 119:105 “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

Our hearts and minds are transformed by God’s word. Therefore we must spend time reading it. Knowing how to read and study the Bible can bring renewed excitement to our time in the Word. All of us have struggled with making the effort to read our Bible from time to time. One of the core issues often leading to a lack of Bible reading is not knowing “how.” This can make Bible reading feel like a dry, lifeless activity. The focus of this article is to give a few guiding principles for studying the Bible.

**Authored By God.** 2 Timothy 3:16-17 “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”

When we read the Bible, we must first remember God is the author. We read His Word to more fully know Him. The Bible captures who He is, what He desires, and how He has designed life. From His Word, we understand our need and how He has met that need. Anytime we consider reading, studying, and understanding the Bible, we must start with the awareness that we are dealing with the very words of God. Think of a time when you were apart from someone you loved. If you were to receive a letter from them, what would their words do to your heart? How often would you read the letter? You would likely cherish their words and try to get as much as possible from their letter. The Bible is God’s letter to you; if we can approach it as such, it will captivate our hearts and minds.

**Big Picture, Small Picture.** 2 Timothy 2:15 “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

As you study the Bible, it is very important to keep the big picture in mind. In part, this means we must have some knowledge of the Bible as a whole to help us understand the passage we are reading. All of us have an idea of what we believe to be true about God, man, Satan, and the world we live in. We must be aware of these beliefs and let the Scripture refine our beliefs. These overarching beliefs give us understanding on how to interpret specific Bible verses. For example, Deuteronomy 4:24 says, “For the Lord thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.” If this were the only information we had about who God is, we would have a skewed perception of Him. This verse is true and describes God but does not give us the entire picture. We also know Scripture describes God as “...merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,” (Exodus 34:6). It is vital to read and understand portions of Scripture within the larger context of the entire Bible. This protects us from drawing wrong or incomplete conclusions from one verse or passage. Knowing the general teachings and overall narrative of the Bible can also help us discern difficult passages of Scripture. When reading unclear verses in the Bible, we must interpret them in light of clear passages of the Bible. The more we read and develop a more complete framework for who God is and how He works, the easier it will become to understand other passages.

In addition to reading Scripture within the context of the entire Bible, it is also important to read verses within their immediate context. For example, John 10:7 states, “Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.” We know from the larger context of the Bible that Jesus is not a literal door. The immediate context of verse 10 shows us that Jesus is the only way through which eternal life comes.

**Meditate.** Psalm 1:1-2 “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth

— Please turn to pg. 64
Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped  
www.achh.org

All of our Homes have been busy with a variety of activities to meet the needs of all the residents. Many outdoor activities are enjoyed by our residents this time of year. The CILA’s have been planting flowers, playing yard games and having backyard cookouts. They also spent a day at the Zoo! Many other day trips are planned for this summer in which the residents get to choose where they would like to go. Linden Estate had a Memorial Day cookout and are looking forward to watching Morton’s fireworks on July 3. Oakwood Estate has summer day trips planned to Springfield and Bloomington. They also participate in Camp Big Sky. Residents at Timber Ridge look forward to Camp Big Sky too. They also enjoy the Riverfront Market and lunch and boat cruise sponsored by the Starved Rock Yacht Club. Local festivals and music events usually have our residents in attendance.

Several residents from Timber Ridge, Oakwood Estate and the CILA homes participated in Special Olympics. Some of them won medals and will be participating in the State Summer games!

Oakwood, Linden and Timber Ridge residents enjoyed music therapy held in each of their homes. This was where two music interns from ISU came and sang songs and played instruments for the residents. They also encouraged resident participation. Everyone loved it!

In April, the annual Art Festival was held at Timber Ridge. Everyone was encouraged to be creative! Residents had the opportunity to participate in eleven different types of art including, art assemblage, a mosaic with recycled bottle caps, music, printing, wheelchairs dancing over paint on the floor and sculptures made from toothbrushes. Art booths were operated by local artists, volunteers and staff. The Art Festival could not have been the success it was without the young folks from Tremont volunteering their time with us.

All of our homes enjoy visitors, whether they come to visit or share their gifts with us. Please join us.

Gateway Woods Apostolic Christian Children’s Home  
Ross Feller – Communications Coordinator

I am blessed to be one of the Gateway Woods staff that is a member of the Auction committee, which meets throughout the year in order to organize the Auction. Every year I am more amazed by the other members of the committee that volunteer their time and talents in order to help hurting families and broken lives through raising money for Gateway Woods. These volunteer members of the committee work so hard to ensure that we have a smooth Auction day.

I am even more inspired when I consider the amount of effort so many others put into making the Auction run smoothly. Dozens of volunteers prepare our campus throughout the summer; literally hundreds of brothers and sisters chip in to volunteer during the week of the Auction and even more on the actual day; dozens of church representatives help us communicate to their local congregation the needs that we have for the day; nearly 100 bikers last year road 200 miles in support of the Auction; hundreds of items are donated by church members from all across the nation, and thousands attend to fellowship and purchase items and food in order to support the mission of Gateway Woods. It truly is an image of thousands of pairs of hands holding up this ministry.

My father was on the Gateway Woods Board for years before I started as the Communications Coordinator. During that time, my family would come and volunteer a day or two early
in order to help with Auction preparations. I thought that
gave me a good picture of the preparation for Auction. But now
that I have truly been able to sit behind the scenes and watch so
many people work to improve the hearts and minds of children, I
am absolutely blown away every year. The love of God really shows
through the incredible outpouring of support that we see centered
on this one day. It is a picture of the support and prayers we know
that we receive all year. Now, working toward my fifth Auction
as a Gateway employee, I am more thankful than ever to the Auction
committee, to our church body, and to our great God.

For any who are able and
would like to join in this day of
fellowship, giving and service, we
hope to see you on August 1.

News:
- Mark your calendars! The Gateway Woods Auction is
  Saturday, August 1.
- Summer is upon us and
  that means there are lots of
  volunteering opportunities at
  Gateway Woods! If you are
  interested in giving your time
  and talents please contact Brett
  Hoerr at vol.coordinator@gatewaywoods.org or via
  phone at 260.627.2159.
- We are very thankful to
  announce the hiring of Sis.

Marisa Leman (Roanoke) as our new Foster Care case
manager! Marisa will be
joining the team in July.
- There are three different career
  positions available currently at
  Gateway Woods, including:
  several openings for Alternate
  Houseparents, one opening
  for a Teacher, and one opening
  for a Home-Based Case
  Worker. For more information
  please see the notices in this
  month’s edition of The Silver
  Lining or visit the Career
  Opportunities page on our
  website at www.gatewaywoods.
  org/careers. We trust that God
  will provide qualified, mature
  brothers and sisters who will
  serve Him in a ministry that is
  ‘Turning Lives Around’.

Alabama, Athens
Apostolic Christian
Preschool
Kalla Knobloch

Summer 2015 has begun! June
has started warming up and the
pools are out. The children enjoy
spending the mornings in the
pools and sprinklers. We use the
pools to get outside and escape the
heat. Parents have been joining
us for picnic lunches and a short
play time a few days this month.
We have enjoyed extra time with
our parents and the fun of seeing
all the kids’ lunch boxes. Many of
the kids have a hard time finishing
their lunch before they try to join
in outdoor play, but their cookies
and sweets are always gone!

The themes for June are Pirates,
Summer, and Yellow. We have been
using Matthew 6:21 as a verse- “For
where your treasure is there will your
heart be also”. The children have
been talking about what could be
considered treasure. Family, pets,
friends, toys, but most of all we
talk about the greatest treasure they
should always search for - Christ’s
love. Pirate maps point the way to
a pirate’s hidden treasure just like
the Bible points us to Jesus and His
Plan of Salvation.

We would like to recognize
two very special treasures that are
no longer at the preschool. Ms.
Susan and Ms. Louise have chosen
to follow the Lord’s leading in a
new walk of life. We pray they have
God’s guidance and light on their
new paths. They will be deeply
missed, but we wish them the best!

Ms. Barbara and Ms. Kalla will
still be at the preschool along with
a new face! If you are able to stop
by, you will be able to meet Ms.
Brittanie. Ms. Brittanie is from the
community in Alabama and has
brought her joy and love of music
into the two-year-old class! She is
learning our circle time songs and
teaching us a few new ones as well.

Our students have been
working very hard on their
Father’s Day gifts. This is a great time for us to talk with the children about Our Father’s love when He gave everything most dear to Him. That is the true treasure. We ask you to pray for our children and the fathers of our children to train up a child in the way they should go. We would like to thank all people that keep the preschool in their prayers. We would not be here today without the love of our families, friends and our mighty God. He is so good to us and we are so thankful for your support.

Remember if you want to volunteer at the preschool, please let me know. We are also actively looking for a teacher for our fall semester. You can contact me at 309.231.1755 or acpreschool2015@gmail.com. More information about the preschool can be found at www.acpreschool.org or find us on Facebook at Apostolic Christian Preschool Athens AL. You can keep up to date on all things preschool.

**Alabama, Athens**

*Kristy Moore*

The last couple of months have seem to fly by for us in Alabama. They have brought the preschool graduation and Memorial Day Weekend. Memorial Day Weekend we were encouraged to remain bold for Christ. This was a memorable weekend of fellowship and encouragement. We would like to thank all of you who supported us in this weekend, whether through prayer, physically being present, or through finances. We are forever grateful for you all.

Ministries from April through May included: Bro. Jeff Waibel (Sis. Margo, Leo, IN), Bro. Duane Ruetter (Rockville, CT), Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL), Bro. Tom Waldbeser (Sis. Sue, Atlanta, GA), Bro. Matt Knapp (Sis. Dana, Atlanta, GA), Bro. Tim Drayer (Sis. Gwen, Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Kent Heimer (Sis. Jan, Taylor, MO), Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), and Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. (Sis. Donna, Morton, IL). We would like to thank you all for your service while visiting our small church. It is always such a blessing to commune with you all.

As we journey through the next weeks to months, may we remain bold in Christ in order to glorify Him through our everyday lives.

“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” Hebrews 4:16

**Arizona, Phoenix**

*Marge Lindenbaum*

Father! To God Himself we cannot give a holier name (William Wordsworth). If Proverbs 31 sets a high bar for women/mothers, how high is the bar for men/fathers? God Himself; pure, holy love - sacrificial, kind, merciful, chastising, all-encompassing love. Scripture is full of examples of fathers, most, if not all, failed in many ways. Even those who were spiritual giants seem to have been lacking in the parenting department. While our parents are given for examples, and we are so grateful for the heritage that is preserved for us, we must all come to the point where we recognize our only help, the only true source of salvation, is Jehovah. It cannot be found in fallen men. What a beautiful example God provides of His love for us, giving us earthly fathers and giving us children of our own to demonstrate how He sees us and cares for us.

There is within each of us a strong desire for such a model, a desire nothing but a father can satisfy, both in a physical and spiritual sense. For those of us who had fathers willing to sacrifice for us, and whose longings were satisfied, the concept of a loving Father-God is easy to grasp. Studies show children ultimately tend to assume the spiritual convictions of their father, no matter what they might be, and no matter how influential any other party might seem to be. What an amazing God we serve, who knows how we are made and the longings of our heart, and is not only able, but eager to fully supply our every need and desire. He sets for us standards that are attainable only through His grace and provides imperfect examples that reassure us of our ability to succeed, even through our failures, as long as His hand is upon the work.

While we appreciate all of our visiting ministers, those from nearby churches are especially welcome. So we were pleased to
have Bro. Curt Kaufman (Tucson, AZ) share the Word with us. As this is being written, we are in the middle of our Vacation Bible School – a busy time for all, and likely the storm before the calm (that happens too, right?) as many of us prepare to leave on vacations and take some time to relax over the next couple of months. One of the benefits of living in Phoenix is the numbers. In winter, our number swells as we are blessed with many visitors who bring so much to our congregation. In summer, our number shrinks back down and we get to re-acquaint ourselves with our “year-round” church family. We love our winter visitors, and we get to enjoy a short time of quieter, more intimate fellowship during the summer months.

Heb. 12:9-10 “Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.”

1 John 3:1 “Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God.”

Arizona, Prescott
Richard Manz

Greetings from Prescott! This past month we were blessed to gather together as a family of believers to spring clean and maintain our church building. Shortly before the cleaning I read in 1 Chronicles 29 where David is praising God for providing for him enough that he is able to give back, in preparing to build the temple for God. “Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name. But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee. For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding. O Lord our God, all this store that we have prepared to build thee an house for thine holy name cometh of thine hand, and is all thine own. I know also, my God, that thou triest the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of mine heart I have willingly offered all these things: and now have I seen with joy thy people, which are present here, to offer willingly unto thee.” 1 Chronicles 29: 13-17. Today most of us live in a land where God has so freely provided, that we have plenty of time, money, or talents to offer. How thankful we can be when we use what God has given us in the services of His kingdom.

Father’s Day is upon us. It is a special day to remember all that our fathers have done for us. As I think of my father, I think of patience, love, and steadfastness, a man who strives to display the same characteristics as our Father in Heaven. What a spiritual advantage we can gain from our God-fearing fathers as they provide for and lead their families, putting God first. I am so thankful, and pray for those that were not given this spiritual advantage. But my hope is that all can come to know our Father in Heaven that loves and cares for us as His own children.

Recent visiting ministers included, in March: Bro. Ron (Sis. Linda) Kipfer from Bluffton, IN, Bro. Alan (Sis. Sarah) Schambach from Remington, IN, and Bro. Jon (Sis. Nancy) Kokanovich from Phoenix; in April: Bro. Doug (Sis. Lillian) Wagenbach from San Diego, CA, Bro. Keith (Sis. Tammy) Hinrichsen from Phoenix, and Bro. Mark (Sis. Stacey) Steffen from Phoenix; in May: Bro. Herb (Sis. Laurie) Knochel from Phoenix, Bro. Matthew (Sis. Rebekah) Kaufmann from Bloomington-Normal, IL, Bro. Curt (Sis. Caroline) Kaufman from Tucson, AZ, and Bro. Jeff (Sis. Val) Leman from Bluffton North, IN; in June: Bro. Klint (Sis. Kara) Beyer from Sabetha, KS. We are thankful for all those willing to serve.

Sis. Autumn Hohulin completed her 3 months working here in Prescott. We will miss her, but wish her God’s blessings as she purses her career elsewhere.

Arizona, Tucson
Dean and Jackie Knobloch

Greetings in our Savior’s name to those across the miles. We were blessed to have Bro. Mike Grimm
(Sis. Amber) from Goodfield here on Sunday June 14. We appreciate his willingness to preach the word on our behalf. Our little church is far from a lot of the other churches, but we welcome visitors who want to experience the sunny Southwest’s summer or winter.

We were delighted to see Bro. Bob Haas in church once again after his lengthy chemo treatment. Our prayers continue for any who are experiencing life’s challenges. I often wonder where we would be without God’s continual love and mercy. May each look to our Savior’s redeeming grace for our daily care.

California, Altadena/Los Angeles
Kali Sauder

Sometimes differences seem insurmountable. I find myself wanting to give up instead of persevering in building relationship with someone, choosing to avoid interaction. But when it comes to church family, excuses like “we’re so different” and “we just don’t have much in common” do not stand. Ephesians 2 reminds me that Christ has “broken down the middle wall of partition between us”, speaking of the seemingly insurmountable differences between believing Jews and gentiles. If they could learn to relate to each other because of common ground in Christ, so can we!

“Heart with heart in love united, Seek upon God’s heart repose. Let your love, to flames ignited, To the Saviour upward flow. He the Head and we His members; He the light and we the glow; He the Master, we His brethren, In true fellowship we grow. Should your love and your affection threaten to decrease and wane, O implore for God’s correction, Till its strength it may regain.” The Fellowship of the Saints, Zion’s Harp, #33

In true fellowship we grow, by the power of the common bond of Jesus. This tie is so strong, even death cannot break it, because eternal life is promised! Bro. Clarence Graf received the fulfillment of that promise, passing away on June 5 with a funeral held on June 10.

Ephesians 2 ends with a description of the unified body of Christ, but it begins with a glorious description of our common ground with believers: salvation by grace, through faith in Christ. We are thrilled to share the news of Justin Klotzle’s (Bro. Dave and Sis. Janelle Klotzle) commitment to Christ, to serve Him with his whole heart and life within the context of the body of believers, specifically our church!

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10

California, San Diego
Janelle Brewer

Greetings from San Diego! Bro. Jim Koehl (Sis. Hildy, Morris, MN) and Bro. Janos Pap (Budapest, Hungary) were our visiting ministers this month. We are thankful they shared the Word of Life with us.

We extend our congratulations to Sarah Fulop (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Joy) and Bro. Colin Wettstein (Bro. Doug and Sis. Sarah) as they graduated from high school this past month. We wish them God’s blessings and guidance as they continue on with their schooling. Also, Jackson Wettstein (Bro. Doug and Sis. Sarah) was our 8th grade graduate.

“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint.” Isaiah 40:31

California, San Diego
Janelle Brewer

Greetings from San Diego! We are thankful to share the good news that Gabriella Wiegand has made known her desire to follow Christ. This comes at a fitting time as we were just reminded at Communion the price He paid to redeem us. Elder Bro. Ted Steffen (Alto, MI) and his family were here to share with us. Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign-Urbana, IL) also shared the Word during his visit to Colorado.

We would like to share with you the testimony of how Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Levy were led to Colorado. We hope you enjoy their story and can be encouraged by their willingness to follow His guiding as written by Bro. Roger.

Colorado, Denver
Naomi Wiegand, Tess Leman

Greetings of love from Colorado! We are thankful to share the good news that Gabriella Wiegand has made known her desire to follow Christ. This comes at a fitting time as we were just reminded at Communion the price He paid to redeem us. Elder Bro. Ted Steffen (Alto, MI) and his family were here to share with us. Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign-Urbana, IL) also shared the Word during his visit to Colorado.
Moving to Colorado

At 12 years of age, I made my first trip to Colorado when my parents took my sister and me to Estes Park for a vacation. My love for the mountains grew after that and I have been coming back ever since then. After frequent vacations to Estes Park, I bought two acres of land along a small stream about 12 miles from Estes Park. In 1978, I climbed Longs Peak, the tallest peak in Rocky Mountain National Park (14,259 feet). On that climb were Howard Plattner and two brothers of Kristen Wullschleger. Little did we know then that 33 years later our son and Howard and Kristen’s daughter would marry. In June of 1980, two significant things happened. First, just two days before my family’s vacation to Colorado, I found out that Sue had accepted my proposal. I later found out that she also loved the mountains in Colorado. Second, on that vacation I attended the first Denver church service at the Grange. Besides me, also attending were my parents, sister and brother-in-law, nephew, ministering Brother Charles Sauder and his family, and Katherine Reiss who was the only person from Colorado.

In 1993, we began considering building a house in Colorado. After taking a trip to Estes to investigate our options, we considered building on the property we owned, building in Estes Park, or buying a house. We prayed for a sign from God as to what we should do. On a Wednesday night topical Bible study on “Redeeming the time” in Francesville, Haggai Chapter 1 was read and it told how the people said that now was not the time to build the Lord’s house. I then thought that this was my answer that we should not build. However, later in verses 7 and 8 it said:

“Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways. Go up to the mountain and bring wood and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord.”
Haggai 1:7-8

After reading this, I knew this was God saying that even though the people were saying it was not the time to build, God was saying that now was the time to build. Then we had to decide which option we should go ahead with. We prayed about this and one night (about 5 AM) I felt that I should get up and open the Bible. When I did, it opened up to Psalm 78:54 “And he brought them to the border of his sanctuary, even to this mountain, which his hand had purchased.” This verse made it clear to us that we should build in Estes Park on the property that is right next to Rocky Mountain National Park (the sanctuary).

We built the house and had a management company rent it out for us, but in 1998 a trial arose. The company I was working for eliminated the research department. Unable to find a job very soon, we thought we needed to consider selling our house in Colorado. We prayed and sought counsel about this and decided that if on that Sunday they read the chapter about God asking Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, then that would be our sign that we should put our house in Colorado on the market. They did not read that chapter, but they did spend a good portion of the sermon talking about Abraham being asked to sacrifice Isaac, so we took for that for our sign. So the next day I called to put our house on the market. We did wonder why God wanted us to sell our house since we believed that God had directed us to build it.

On the following day, the real estate agent called and said that he had a buyer. However, he said that the buyer, who had a small house in the same development, needed to sell his house and we could downsize by trading houses. We took this as the ram in the thicket that God provided for the sacrifice instead of Isaac. We learned from this that we should not become too attached to earthly possessions.

In 2006, we started thinking about what we needed to do if we wanted to move to Colorado permanently or at least for part of the year instead of just for a week at a time. Our small house was fine for a week vacation, but for longer term the closets were tiny and it was not well suited for longer periods. Unexpectedly, we received a letter from an Estes Park real estate agent asking if we would be interested in selling our house. We thought this was a sign and we sold our house and bought...
a condominium unit that fit our needs for the future.

After working almost forty years as a corn breeder, I retired on March 31, 2013. Sue and I rented a truck and moved to Estes Park the next week to fulfill our dream of moving to Colorado someday. We also moved Sue’s custom drapery business and she has kept busy making drapes thanks in part to contacts we had in Estes Park. I have kept busy helping Sue in her business and working at part time jobs such as the YMCA of the Rockies.

We love being next to Rocky Mountain National Park where we can hike in the summer and snowshoe in the winter. We also enjoy the low humidity and the abundant sunshine. The nights are cool even in the summer and we do not even have air conditioning. There is a lot of wildlife in the park and around our condo. We frequently see elk and deer by our condo and have seen coyotes, a bobcat, and bear tracks across our driveway. It is wonderful to see God’s creation and the beauty of the changing seasons on the mountains.

It is about an hour and a half drive for us to the Denver Church, but it is well worth the drive to be able to live in the mountains. It did take us two and a half hours to get to church in fall of 2013 when we had a catastrophic flood that washed out most of the roads leading to Estes Park, but they have now rebuilt the road we take to church.

We have also enjoyed having many guests and being able to show them God’s beauty in the mountains and the wildlife that He has created. It brings us closer to God when we can hike to unbelievably beautiful lakes and mountains. It is wonderful to feel the peace and quiet in the wilderness that God has created.

Bro. Roger & Sis. Sue Levy

Connecticut, Rockville

Lauren Gottier, Sheila Gerber

“Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine, both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.” Titus 1:9

We are thankful for those visiting ministers who are so willing to be used in the Lord’s vineyard on our behalf: Bro. Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL) on May 20; and Bros. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL) and Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH) on June 7. Also, Elder Bro. John Wiegand (Sis. Jane, Silverton, OR) was with us on June 7 along with his daughter, Sis. Jenna Wiegand, who has taken employment in CT and will be assembling with us in Rockville. Welcome Jenna!

We also want to extend a warm welcome to Bro. Jordan Sinn (Silverton, OR) who will be worshipping with us for three months while he is working in Ellington for the summer.

Our congregation rejoices with Bro. Jay Fehr & Sis. Jay Lemire on their engagement on May 31. We also wish God’s blessings on the union of Victoria (Bro. Joe & Sis. Sandy Koch) & Rob Armstrong who were married June 6.

We will miss Bro. David Beutel (Bro. Gene & Sis. Lynne) who will now be making Peoria, IL home since finishing school. May the Lord provide for him as he begins this next phase of life.

Our congregation extends our sympathy to Sis. Nancy Gerber (Bro. Everett) whose sister, June Huschen, from Roanoke, IL passed away.

We rejoice with two couples, as they both welcome second children into their families. Chris & Allison Skinner welcomed a daughter, Hadley Mae, on June 10. Hadley joins big brother Harrison. Her grandparents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Sherry Skinner and Tom and Alice DeCarli. Bro. Rich & Sis. Andrea Hany now have a baby boy to love. Brecken Trace joins his sister Talya at home. His grandparents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Betsy Hany and Bro. Gene and Sis. Linda Banwart (Lamar, MO). Bro. Gerry and Heidi Ludwig have a new little granddaughter to love. Their daughter and son-in-law, Ruth and Justin Hermida welcomed a little girl, Naomi Grace last month. We pray for God’s guidance as these parents are given the responsibility of raising these little ones.

District of Columbia, Washington

Henrietta Meyer

After several months of no caretakers, we were pleased to welcome Bro. Andy and Sis. Cyndi
Figel, Baylee and Caydi from Sardis, OH as our caretakers this month. If you feel led to support one of our small churches, being caretakers here would be a wonderful way to do so. If you are interested and are free to spend 3-4 weeks in the DC area, please contact Sis. Doreen Steffen at dkgsteffen@gmail.com or 302-540-6574.

Our ministers this month were Bro. Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL), Bro. Jerry Meeks (Sis. Christy, Sabetha, KS), Bro. Kevin Fehr (Sis. Lonnie, West Bend, IA), Bro. Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda, Philadelphia, PA) and Bro. Tom Bahler (Sis. Lanae, Rockville, CT). Other visitors were from Fort Scott, KS, Phoenix, AZ, Rockville, CT, and Sardis, OH. Thanks to all who have included us in your plans.

One Sunday, the Young Group from Rockville came down to visit and brought and served lunch. That was such a blessing in so many ways.

Another Sunday afternoon, we cut fabric for health and school bags for a World Relief project.

With the warming of the weather, many turn their thoughts to vacations. There are many free attractions in Washington, DC, things for all the family. If you are planning to visit Washington, D.C. area for vacation or business, please contact Bro. Joe and Sis. Holly Bohart at jbohart@gmail.com or Sis. Henrietta Meyer at 703 904-8301 for assistance and to let us know how many to expect for Sunday services.

**Florida, Ft. Myers**

**Victor Beer**

Our church was blessed this month with a Bible Study and potluck supper and the joy of the usual good fellowship.

Rachael Sabo, who has been helping at The New Beginnings, was married to Ryan Hollan. We welcome their family as a part of our fellowship. Their four children: Grace, Faith, Ty and Cole, are a welcome addition to our Sunday School.

Our Bro. Mel Baum is presently in the hospital in Miami, awaiting tests for further surgery. Sis. Linda is faithfully taking care of him and reporting his status to us.

Sis. Dottie Beer is back on her feet after surgery, recovering at home.

If you are considering a move to the Naples/Fort Myers area and would like to talk to someone about it, please call Bro. Marvin Steffen at 239-353-0508. He will help you gather information on anything from serving in a small church to job opportunities and housing in the area.

**The New Beginnings**

One of the things I’ve learned, in earnest, over the last six years is that change is a constant. Maybe it’s just my life or something God continues to tell me I need to work on accepting but it just seems like nothing stays the same for very long! When my wife and I were Houseparents at Gateway Woods we were getting new residents and staff and here at The New Beginnings it seems to be the same way. Thankfully, the Word lets us know the one thing that truly matters never changes: “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever!” Hebrews 13:8

Last month, one of our mothers graduated and got married and moved on with her life. Now we have a new mother, Danielle, and her two precious daughters, Orianna and Faith, here with us! Pray for them as they settle in to a new place and start a new chapter in their lives.

Also joining us this month is a new mentor. Sis. Laura Streitmatter, hailing all the way from Peoria, IL! We appreciate her willingness to come where God has sent her and her willing attitude and cheerful spirit. Please pray for Laura as she adjusts to moving such a great
distance and offers mentorship to the mothers. (You can also pray that the little lizards stay far, far away from her apartment.)

If you would like more information on The New Beginnings, becoming a mentor or about moving to the Ft. Myers area to support our small church don’t hesitate to call us at 239-541-4312.

**Florida, Sarasota**

*Kim Ott*

“**And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.”** Isaiah 30:21

Our theme this year for VBS was centered around Isaiah 30:21. The children learned that God is our guide and He will lead us one step at a time along the path He has chosen for us. The children were taught Bible stories about Daniel and his friends. They had to make some tough decisions to stand up for their faith even when the crowd around them chose to obey the King instead of God. Their choice to follow God could have cost them their life, but not only did God save them, he blessed them for their obedience. What amazing true heroes we have for role models of faith and courage!

We want to extend best wishes and prayers to our high school graduate, Gabe Streitmatter (Elder Bro. Jeff and Sis. Lynne)! We pray that God would keep Gabe close in His care and that Gabe would always look to God for direction as he starts a new pathway in his life.

Thank you to Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) for sharing God’s word to us. We pray God’s blessings on the truth that was spoken.

**Georgia, Peachtree City/Atlanta**

*Lexi Knapp, Elise Waldbeser*

The first weekend of June was our loved annual lake day at “Camp’s Cabin.” As the children pile on the kayaks and the dock fills to overflowing, the sound of laughter and fellowship is very present. We thank Chris and Sis. Peggy Camp so much for again opening their cabin to host such a treasured time for our church family to spend together!

Our prayers are with Sis. Mary Brewer as she recovers from surgery. We miss her presence with us on Sundays, yet so appreciate her joyful heart of trust in Jesus even through this time of recovery. We love you, Sis. Mary!

The church remodel is rapidly coming to a close! With carpet laid, we have begun to move furniture in and landscape the outdoors. Pews are coming soon and anticipation to worship upstairs in our new church is growing! However, our time of worshipping in the church basement has been a special time and will likely be looked back upon with fondness and great memories! We are beginning to plan the Open House and Dedication of our new church building for the weekend of August 22 and 23!

If anyone is coming to the area, we would love to have you worship with us! Our new address is: 202 Robinson Road, Peachtree City, GA 30269. However, please call ahead! (Tom Waldbeser 770.463.4788 or Richard Aberle 678.364.0507). For photos and additional information, visit our website at www.ptcacchurch.org.

**Illinois, Belvidere**

*Krista Anliker, Shayla Steffen*

“**Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.”** Deut. 31:6

Thank you to all who came to worship with us, including Bro. John Rowell (Sis. Nelda) from Tremont and Bro. Nate Wiegand (Sis. Laura) from Goodfield.

Sis. Charity Steffen (Bro. Dean and Sis. Carol) and Bro. Jeremy Oswald (Bro. Mike and Sis. Michelle) of Tremont were engaged and are planning an August wedding. May God richly bless the two of them as they strive to serve God together in this journey.

We recently had elections. Bro. Grant Anliker was elected for trustee. Bro. Troy Steffen and Sis. Jenn Johnson were elected to be Sunday School teachers. May they be blessed for their willingness, as well as the outgoing Sunday School teachers and trustee for their efforts.
Illinois, Bloomington-
Normal
Sarah Maurer, Terri Huber

Two of our biggest annual events always happen in June. Vacation Bible School was a whirlwind week of learning about God’s Heart for the World. Students and adults alike were encouraged to learn and remember the gospel story and the Great Commission, and take it to not only our neighbors, but those “beyond our backyard” as well! The second biannual June event is the Bible Class mission trip. The young adults and “older adults” were blessed to serve others in Jamaica. They felt God move in their group and in their individual hearts.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers that made VBS possible: Bros. Daren Metz (Gridley), Matt Steffen (Princeville), Gregg Rumbold (Peoria) and Mike Grimm (Goodfield).

A new birth is cause for rejoicing! Todd & Joan Heiniger of Chiang Mai, Thailand, welcomed their first child, Judson James, on May 28, 2015. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Ron & Sis. Kayleen Heiniger of Bloomington and Joe & Mary Joan Collison of Rockville Centre, NY. Evan & Rachel Fleming of Peoria were blessed with a new son, Levi Rigby Gene, on April 29, 2015. His siblings are Archer and Lively. Delighted grandparents are Bro. Curt & Sis. Elma Fleming and Dan & Brenda Howerton. Benzley Payton, born to Jared & Cally Conrad of Machesney Park, IL, was welcomed home by siblings, Mercedes and Owen.

Benzley was born on May 25 and the proud grandparents are Bro. Ron & Sis. Ellen Farney of Bloomington and Jim & Alice Conrad of Oregon, Illinois.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Scott Stimeling at the passing of his father, Bro. George Stimeling of Bloomington, IL. Even at the age of 85, George was always ready to have a conversation with anyone. He was known and loved by many and we are certain that, though he is missed here by us, he is rejoicing in heaven! Sis. Esther Rinkenberger of Bloomfield, IA, also passed away in May. Her daughter Sis. Carol (Bro. Dale) Strassheim is missing her, so we remember her during this difficult time.

Illinois, Bradford
Roseann Stahl, Sandi Joos

We are thankful Sis. Tonya Joos (Bro. Tyler) is home and recovered from a recent surgery. Our prayers are with Bro. Nate Stoller (Sis. Martha) as he battles cancer. May God be the ever present comforter.

“How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.” Ephesians 3:3-9

By revelation of the Holy Spirit, Bro. Tyler Joos (Sis. Tonya) has been called into the ministry to reveal the mystery of the gospel.

Our prayers are with him as he allows the Spirit to speak through him to bring forth the Truth. May we all be up and doing and ministering where God has called each one of us.

Renae Baer (Sis. Janna) and Chris Baker (Tom and Holly Schmitt) were united in marriage on June 6.

Carl Ryan was born June 8 to first-time parents Bro. Daniel and Sis. Allaina Ehnhle. Grandparents of Carl are Bro. Donn and Sis. Tracy Ehnhle and Bro. Nate and Sis. Sherrill Stoller.

We welcome Bro. John Joos (Sis. Rebecca and the late Bro. Robert) and Sis. Anna Dietz (Bro. Barry and Sis. Rachel) as our new brother and sister in Christ. We thank Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke) for assisting Elder Bro. Bruce. Serving from the pulpit were Bro. Dan Moser (Sis. Anne, Elgin, IL) and Bro. Marvin Hartzler (Sis. Sue, Rittman, OH).

Illinois, Champaign
Sarah Fehr

We have experienced some “big” events in Champaign this month! On May 9 and 10, we enjoyed the testimony and baptism of Sis. Haley Plattner. On May 17, Bro. Brian Waibel was ordained as a deacon for Champaign church.

We are glad for Bro. Brian and Sis. Wendy’s willingness to fill this role.

We are thankful that Sarah (Rudin) Peoples is following the Lord’s leading to become a sister in the church. We are also thankful to her husband, Josh, for his support.
Visiting ministers this month were: Bro. Dewayne Dill and Bro. Alan Schambach.

Food for spiritual thought: “Did you ever stop to think that God is going to be as pleased to have you with Him in Heaven as you are to be there?” -A.W. Tozer

Illinois, Chicago

Diana Eisenmann

We were blessed to have a number of visiting ministers this past month, including Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bro. Aaron Luthi (Sis. Maria, Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Sis. Sharon, Cissna Park, IL), and Bro. David Eisenmann (Sis. Jackie, Champaign, IL). They joined us for the wedding of Sis. Julie Eisenmann and Bro. Michael Luthi on May 24. Sis. Julie is the daughter of Elder Bro. Brad and Sis. Cindy Eisenmann. Bro. Michael is the son of Elder Bro. Jay and Sis. Jane Luthi. It was a beautiful weekend celebrating the work of God in their lives and witnessing their union in Christ. We wish each one God’s blessings on their endeavors.

We held our Sunday School picnic in June and once again enjoyed a lovely program put on by the students. We thank all of the teachers for their labors over the past year and thank the students for their enthusiastic participation. Graduating seniors this year were Emily Knapp, Sean Knapp, and Sis. Sierra Steffen. May God continue to guide and direct each of you as you begin a new chapter.

Bro. Darin Metzger is recovering from his surgery in June. We thank God for His healing power.

We are deeply saddened to share the loss of Charlie Drew Vercler, Bro. Brian and Sis. Amber Vercler’s baby who was born prematurely. Our prayers are with their family through this difficult time.

Illinois, Cissna Park

Sandy Rudin, Janie Waldbeser

“I am so glad that our Father in heav’n Tells of His love in the Book He has giv’n, Wonderful things in the Bible I see; This is the dearest, that Jesus loves me.”

Tho’ I forget Him and wander away, Still He doth love me wherever I stray; Back to His dear loving arms would I flee, When I remember that Jesus loves me. Oh, if there’s only one song I can sing, When in His beauty I see the great King, This shall my song in eternity be: ‘Oh, what a wonder that Jesus loves me.’

Chorus: I am so glad that Jesus loves me, Jesus loves me, Jesus loves me, I am so glad that Jesus loves me, Jesus loves even me.”

Tabernacle Hymns #390

This was our theme song for Vacation Bible School this year. We had another year of successful VBS and averaged 61 students in attendance each morning. There was a program at the end of the week. Our prayer is that the students will keep in their hearts the memory work that they learned. Our Bible Class students and young adults had evening classes. Bro. John Cottrell (Eureka) spoke on God’s Glory Magnified by His Works. Bro. Matthew Rassi (Chicago) spoke on Decision Making. Bro. Jason Dotterer (Forrest) spoke on Being a Christian Example.

Bro. Arlyn and Sis. LaNae Rudin are excited about adding another grandchild to their family. Keira Marie was born to Bro. Tim and Sis. Traci Leman (Eureka).

We are thankful to report that we have two new converts in our church. They are Dana Schmidt and Melissa Beer. Dana is the daughter of Bro. Wendell and Sis. Karen Schmidt (West Bend). Melissa is the daughter of Scott
and Deb Beer of our congregation.

Several loved ones from Akron and Sardis recently spent a weekend with us and helped with work projects on Saturday. Their visit was deeply appreciated by those who received some help. It was wonderful to get to know these dear ones better. What a blessed fellowship we have that we can work together in love when we don’t really know one another that well.

We are thankful that Bros. Les Kaeb, Art Mueller, and Dana Indermuhle could recently visit our church and minister to us.

Sis. Viola Greiner is spending sometime in a nearby nursing home receiving some therapy. Sis. Kathy Stock is still confined to a nursing home and needs our prayers.

On June 13, the wedding of Marissa Wilkening (Mark and Sis. Dinah Wilkening) and Kevin Maciejewski took place here in Cissna Park. We ask for God’s blessings on their marriage. They are residing in Milwaukee, WI.

Illinois, Congerville

Erica Steffen

We are once again thankful for all of the ministers and their families who have taken time to labor on our behalf this month. Bros. Bill Schick (Sis. Joan, Magdalena), Retired Elder Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL), John Baumgartner (Sis. Lori, Bern), Ron Isch (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley), Elder Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucille, Eureka), Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke), John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke), Dale Stoller (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury), Kevin Knapp (Sis. Dixie, Bloomington/Normal), Ned Bahler (Sis. Anna, Fairbury) all encouraged us through the Word of Truth. May they be blessed for their efforts in the Spirit.

The home of Bro. David and Sis. Erica Steffen was blessed with the birth of another little boy. Jovan Adair was born May 17. Welcoming Jovan is older brother, Josiah, as well as grandparents, Kent and Sis. Beth Steffen and Eric and Pam Kuchenmeister of Hudson, IL.

Bro. Jay Hartman and Sis. Brenda Leman were united in marriage on June 14 in Forrest. Their parents are Bro. Gene (dec.) and Sis. Carrie Hartman from Congerville and Bro. Leland and Sis. Barb Zimmerman (Sis. Laurene, dec.) from Eureka. May they continue to feel the nearness of our Heavenly Father as they journey on together as one in the Lord.

We wish God’s blessings on our three High School Graduates: Darren Ift (Bro. Brent and Sis. Sheila), Steffani Wiegand (Bro. Joe and Sis. Myra) and Alan Zimmerman (Bro. Chuck and Sis. Ginny). Our young adults are such a wonderful addition to our church. We take much joy in seeing them grow and mature. May they seek the Lord’s wisdom and guidance as they pursue new endeavors, schooling or careers.

“Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;
Spend much time in secret, with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, like Him thou shalt be;
Thy friends in thy conduct His likeness shall see.”

Hymns of Zion 112, vs. 2

Elder Bro. Trent Meiss assisted Bro. Rick this month in sharing the Memorandum with our church. It was a blessing to be reminded of our desire and calling to live sanctified, Christ-like lives. I find for myself that I can get caught in the rush of this world and forget that I have been called to a holier purpose. That purpose can be such an influence to those around me. It is good to have these reminders from time to time, lest we allow Satan to lull us into complacency.

Illinois, Elgin

Amy Gasser

We thank Bro. Alan Schambach (Remington, IN) and Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) for their services in the ministry. We also thank Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann for conducting an all-church topical presentation on Wednesday, June 10 entitled “The Disciplined Life of a Believer.”

We bid farewell to two families during the past month. Tom and Sis. Jolene Young have relocated to Missouri with their three daughters: Sis. Shelby, Sis. Shania, and Shayna. They are now assembling with the Taylor congregation. Bro. Marv and Sis. Kim Reinhard and their daughters, Sis. Sydnee and Lindsey, have
moved back to Bluffton, IN. We will miss them all.

Sis. Mary Gasser was hospitalized for tests recently. We are thankful that she is home and feeling better.

Bro. Cole Steffen (Bro. Dirk and Sis. Deb of Goodfield, IL) has completed his studies at NIU and will be moving to the Phoenix, AZ area later this summer. Kyle Wewetzer (Bro. Mark and Sis. Nancy) has graduated from the University of Minnesota and has accepted a job in Minneapolis, MN.

Bob Graf of Parkers Prairie, MN (formerly from Elgin) passed away on June 6 at age 90. We extend our sympathy to his niece, Sis. Norma Utt, from our Elgin church.

**Illinois, Eureka**

*Debra Blunier, Linda Rocke*

We extend our thanks to our visiting ministers this month. They were Bro. Virgil Kaeb (Sis. Suellen, Sarasota), Bro. Paul Kilgas (Sis. Carmen, Fairbury), Bro. Jedd Rocke (Sis. Marsha, Goodfield), Bro. Brian Waibel (Sis. Wendy, Champaign), Bro. Matt Feucht (Sis. Jennifer, Roanoke), Bro. Randy Mogler (Sis. Evie, Washington), and Bro. Arlen Leman (Sis. Denise, Forrest.)

Two new babies were added to our congregation this month. Bro. Brad and Sis. Amanda Stoller were blessed with a boy, Weston Edward, born on May 24. Big brother and sister Emerson and Kinsey welcome him home. Grandparents are Lloyd and Sherry Stoller of El Paso, and Norman and Connie Hoerr of Eureka.

Also, Bro. Tim and Sis. Traci Leman were blessed with a baby girl, Keira Marie, born on May 23. She is welcomed home by Blake, Ailey, and Melia. Grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Marilyn Leman of Washington and Bro. Arlyn and Sis. Lanae Rudin of Cissna Park.

Bro. Ernie Wiegand and Sis. Lana Stoller from Bradford announced their engagement. Parents are Dale and Sis. Freidora Wiegand, and Bro. Steve and Sis. Anna Marie Stoller from Bradford. Also announcing their engagement were Sis. Jolene Wiegand (Bro. Andy and Sis. Vicky) to Bro. Pete Zimmerman of Forrest (Bro. Kent and Sis. Paulette). We are thankful God continues to lead His children and guide their steps along life’s pathway.

We rejoice with Bro. Joe Leman and Sis. Miranda Blunier who were united in holy matrimony on June 7. Parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Ruth Leman and Bro. Sam and Sis. Luann Blunier. Also, Bro. Merle Blunier and Sis. Michelle Phillips from the Washington congregation became one in the Lord on June 14. Their parents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Wendy Blunier and Bro. Ed (Sis. Sally, dec.) of Washington. May God bless them and guide them as they blend their families together. Their children are Abbie and Emily Phillips, and Morgan, Dakota, and Bowdrie Blunier.

The young group hosted Fairbury, Forrest, Junction, Latty, Lester, Morris, and Rockville young groups on Memorial Day Weekend. What a blessing it is to enjoy those special bonds of faith we have with our dear brethren from other congregations.

The end of the school year is a special time for those seniors who are graduating from high school. These include Eli Cottrell, Sawyer Cottrell, Bro. Brant Martin, Serena Meiss, Aaron Schmidgall, Sis. Abbie Wettstein, Matt Wood, Lucas Zimmerman, and Noah Zimmerman. We pray that God will protect them and guide their footsteps as they journey on in this life.

Our prayers are with Bro. Eli Fisher as he is dealing with health issues. May God be with him in this time of illness.

**Illinois, Fairbury**

*Angela Herr, Janelle Stoller*

We trust our Sunday School children heard many good teachings the first week of June at Vacation Bible School. We appreciate the visiting ministers that spoke to our Bible Class including Bro. Keith Hinrichsen (Phoenix, AZ), Bro. Mark Wettstein (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Ed Sauder (Roanoke, IL). May God bless each brother and sister that spent time on behalf of our children.

We extend our sympathy to several in our congregation who have lost loved ones. Jane (Marvin) Bahler’s sister, Ruth Broquard, passed away May 25. Sis. Marguerite Lorch
lost her brother-in-law, John Lorch, on June 6. Sis. Dorothy Streib passed away June 7. Her survivors include three daughters: Trudy Fagot, Tina (Dennis) Mielenikowski (Carpentersville, IL) and Tammy Streib.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Cherie (Robert) Kaisner as she underwent double knee replacement. May God be with Sis. Delores Nussbaum and Bro. Duane (Sis. Arlene) Kilgus who were also hospitalized.

We’re always glad to see Bros. Dennis Rassi (Austin, TX), Al Schambach (Remington, IN), and Matt Knapp (Peachtree City, GA). We appreciate their labors in the ministry and pray God will bless each one.

The weekend of August 29-30 we will be hosting a commemoration in recognition of 50 years since our church building was erected and dedicated. Anyone who previously attended the Fairbury Apostolic Christian Church is welcome to attend. More details and RSVP information are posted in the News & Notices section in the back of this issue.

Illinois, Forrest

Molly Zimmerman
Shannon Brown

“There are friendships that we cherish, In our daily walk of life, Friends with whom we meet and labor in our earthly toil and strife, Friends among the aged and youthful, Friends that live from us apart, Friends of higher rank and station Find a place within my heart.” Hymns of Zion #91

Greetings of love from Forrest!

We have had a busy start to our summer here. What a blessing we have as a church to be able to travel to and from and have so many visitors from different churches across the land. We would like to thank all the visitors who have been in Forrest this past month and especially all the visiting ministers. They were Bros. Darin Massner (West Bend, IA), Kevin Wulf (Morris, MN), Mark Klaus (Athens, AL), Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Daren Metz (Gridley, IL), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Chris Weuthrich (Chicago, IL), Mark Zimmerman (Eureka, IL), Craig Stickling (Peoria, IL), Jon Zeller (Morton, IL), John Steiner (Oakville-Medapolis, IA), Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Elder Bros. Tim Funk (Peoria, IL) and Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL). May they be richly blessed for their labors.

The Sunday School had VBS this past month and several ministers came to speak on “Applying Bible Stories Today”. They were Bros. Nathan Wiegand (Goodfield, IL), James Fehr (Tremont, IL), Paul Kilgus (Fairbury, IL) and John Cottrell (Eureka, IL). We again thank each of these brothers for taking time for our children. We also thank Sis. Marie Ricketts and Sis. Barb Edelman for their service in Sunday School and spending time with our little children. Taking their places are Sis. Bonnie Dotterer and Sis. Janet Schmidgall. Our prayers will be with these dear sisters as they take on this responsibility.

We had three weddings this past month. Sis. Marie Ricketts married Bro. Gary Unsicker from Peoria. We will miss Sis. Marie and her children, but know that they will be loved by the Peoria congregation. Sis. Brenda Leman was joined in Holy Matrimony to Bro. Jay Hartman from Congerville. Shelby Hall (Bro. Don and Barb Hall) and Josh Harn (Rick and Pam Harn, Chatsworth, IL) were also married. May each of these couples feel the Lord’s working and blessings as they begin their lives together.

Brooke and Isaiah Stork and big brother Cooper welcome Maxon Lee into their family. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Paul and Dawn Stork. Walker Lee was born to Jessica Ifft. Sawyer is his older brother and thankful grandparents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Mary Ifft. May each of these families feel our Lord’s guidance as they raise their children.

Our prayers have been with Bro. John Eisenmann (Sis. Bev) as he has spent time in the hospital.

Illinois, Goodfield

Kayla Wiegand, Melissa Rokey

We want to congratulate our High School graduates this year which include: Levi Bauman (Bro. Dan & Sis. Holly), Serena Bauman (Bro. Rick & Sis. Stacie), Louis Berardi (Bro. Randy & Sis. Ellie), Kailee Getz (Tim &
Sis. Kim), Wade Gregorie (Rob & Diane), Sis. Allison Hinrichsen (Bro. Mike & Sis. Gerri), Seth Rieke (Bro. Brian & Sis. Lisa), Bro. Tyler Rocke (Bro. Jedd & Sis. Marsha), Sis. Haley Rokey (Bro. Ben & Sis. Shelley), Brock Wiegand (Bro. Greg & Sis. Jenny), Cole Wiegand (Bro. Doug & Sis. Lynn), John Wiegand (Bro. Dwight & Sis. Deb), and Sis. Whitney Wiegand (Bro. Brad & Sis. Karen). We trust that God will bless and guide them as they open a new chapter in their life.

We are prayerful for Bro. Matt Thornton as he was in a car accident. He was hit head-on in a collision. He was at St. Francis hospital with a bruise on his brain. We also want to remember Bro. Gary Allen (Sis. Connie) who also spent some time in the hospital this month.

We rejoice with Braden Wiegand (Bro. Brad & Sis. Karen), Ethan Moser (Bro. Sam & Sis. Ruth) and Isaac Wiegand (Bro. Greg & Sis. Jenny) as they have turned their lives to the Lord in repentance. May they feel His nearness and grace. We are so thankful that God is still patient and calling souls to repentance and conversion.

We are very thankful to announce that Gage and Serena Bauman (Bro. Rick and Sis. Stacie) have heard the call from God and have come by faith with a broken, repentant heart and are ready for baptism. Please pray for them and encourage them during this most important time in their lives.

Our Vacation Bible School for pre-K thru 8th grade was June 1-5. The theme for this week was “God is Alive”. For the Bible Class and adults, we had visiting ministers. Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) talked about “God is at work around you”. Bro. Harvey Kaeb (Sis. Judy, Gridley, IL) talked about “God’s desires for you”, and Bro. Rick Kaeser (Sis. Michelle, Chicago, IL) talked about “God’s purpose for you”. It was a great week to be taught and instructed. We want to thank all the ministers who gave of themselves and also all of the teachers and craft helpers.

On June 17, Bro. Jared & Sis. Angie Schieber welcomed another precious baby girl, Lydia Kay, into their family. Lydia was welcomed home by big brother Harvey and her sister Lena. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Randy & Sis. Cindy Schmidgall and Bro. Mike & Sis. Mary Schieber (Congerville, IL).

Our Bible class students, teachers and some parents left June 13-20 for a mission trip to the Galilean Home Ministries in Kentucky. We pray for a safe and inspirational journey for the Bible class.

Bro. Rod Hinrichsen and Sis. Molly Davis and a few others went to Jamaica where Sis. Erin Davis is at the deaf village. We want to remember them in prayers for safe travels.

We are always grateful for those who gave of themselves in ministering to our congregation this past month. They include: Bro. Dale Frank (Sis. Christine, Oakville/Mediapolis, IA), Bro. Keith Hinrichsen (Sis. Tammy, Phoenix, AZ), Bro. Art Mueller (Sis. Marlene, Belvidere, IL), and Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL).

Illinois, Gridley

Perry Klopfenstein

Bro. Bob Witzig, 66, passed away on a fishing trip to Canada on June 3, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 8 1/2 years, Sis. Terri, and a sister, Sis. Joyce (Bernie) Ferneau, and a brother, Bro. Bill (Sis. Conni, Indianapolis); a brother-in-law, Bro. Ed Fritz, Washington; and his aunt and uncle, Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marjorie Witzig. Also, 28 nieces and nephews survive him. Bro. Bob was very close as an uncle to his nieces and nephews. Bro. Bob was a gentle person with a warm smile and inviting manner. We will miss him in the church hallways, and as an usher.

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Ken Wuethrich and Ron Bollier, Indianapolis; and Bro. Ed Fritz, Washington, IL.

Ministers who spoke at the high school and adult section of Vacation Bible School were Bros. Mark Klaus, Athens, AL; Mark Schmidgall, Oakville, IA; Scott Wegman, Taylor, MO; Bro. Nathan Wiegand, Goodfield; and Bro. Darren Plattner, Champaign. They spoke on “Following the Leader.”

We welcome Gary Schifferer to our congregation. He is the
nephew of Bro. Bill Schifferer.

Jack Siever is recovered from a stroke, and he also was being treated for pneumonia. Sis. Monica Edelman had a bladder disease. Sis. Mary Ringger has pain issues with cancer. Sis. Marilyn Schieler had foot surgery.

Jordan Gage Stoller was born on May 4 to Bro. Josh and Sis. Julie Stoller. Jordan is their second child. He has a sibling, Tyson, 2. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb Kaeb, Tremont, and Bro. Roger and Sis. Mary Stoller.

Harper Lane Steidinger, a daughter, was born to Bro. McLane and Sis. Leah Steidinger. She is their second child. She has a sister, Jean, 2. Grandparents are Ministering Bro. Clark and Sis. Cindy Stoller and Bro. Ted and Sis. Sara Steidinger, Fairbury.

Illinois, Morton

Annette Tanner, Julie Bahr

Family Worship Night was given by Bro. Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke). Bro. Ed’s topic message “Gems of Proverbs: Wisdom” was presented to the following graduating Seniors: Sis. Mandy Heinold (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pam), Nicole Blunier (Bro. Rod and Sis. Teresa), and Bro. T. J. Leman (Bro. Tim and Sis Beth). Sound advice for the graduates preparing for their futures can only be derived from the Scriptures. Thank you Bro. Ed for your loving advice!

Other visiting ministers this month that we are thankful for: Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy, Prescott), Bro. Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn, Taylor), and Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend).

Our sympathy is shared with our Sis. Lucy Schmidgall in the passing of her sister from Princeville, Sis. Martha Streitmatter.

As Mother’s Day has passed and Father’s Day approaches, remember to create a treasured Heritage! Don’t miss an opportunity to leave a Spiritual Legacy for your children and grandchildren. If that is the only “achievement” you make in life, you will have succeeded!

Our Morton Church was richly blessed with a full week of Vacation Bible School. Young and old alike received encouragement for godly life application with our theme being “Portrait Of Faith”. Bro. Willis Ehnle (Peoria) spoke on Being Redeemed. Bro. Bruce Frank (Cissna Park) spoke on Everlasting Praise. Bro. Curt Rassi (Tremont) spoke on Patience and Godliness. Bro. Matt Steffen (Princeville) spoke on Kindness and Charity. Bro. Rick Kaisner (Chicago) finished up the week by speaking on God’s Exceeding Greatness and His Precious Promises. We extend our deep love and appreciation to these ministers for giving of their time to bring us this word of encouragement. Our thanks also goes to our other visiting Ministers as well: Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend), Bro. Glen Funk (Sis. Sally, Wichita), Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto) and Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago). We are thankful, as well, to Bro. Jon Zeller (Sis. Christie) for giving our Family Worship Topic “Gems of Proverbs: Work”. Ants work together in colonies and have complex tasks to perform for such tiny little insects. This is just one more way in which we, as a body of Christ, can glean wisdom from the way our Creator created all things in His infinite wisdom.

Congratulations on the engagement of our Sis. Charity Steffen to Bro. Jeremy Oswald from Tremont. Sis. Charity’s parents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Carol Steffen (Belvidere). Bro. Jeremy’s parents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Michelle Oswald (Tremont).

Congratulations to Bro. Randy and Sis. Jane Schick who welcomed a granddaughter. Baby Elsie Lucille entered the home of Kirk and Kristen, along with siblings, Mara and Parker Schick. Jim and Sherri Parker are the maternal grandparents.

Congratulations also to grandparents Bro. Andy and Sis. Jaye Sauder who welcomed two grandbabies. Harry Grayson entered the home of Adam and Tina Sauder on February 20. Willow Ana was welcomed into the home of Greg and Donna Sauder on April 26.

On May 22, Bro. Alan and Sis. Natalie Zimmerman were blessed to welcome a third baby girl, Lorelei Joy. Big sisters to welcome her are Jovi and Delaney. Thankful grandparents are Bro.
Doug and Sis. Janie Zimmerman and Bro. Dave and Sis. Jean Martin (Elgin).

Bro. Kenny and Sis. Devon Rinkenberger became grandparents to baby boy, Elliot Graham, born to Mark and Kristen Graham on April 27.

A new baby girl, Casey Nicole, was welcomed into the home of Brock, Caitlin and Carter Bahr on June 1. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Brian and Sis. Julie Bahr.

What precious gifts these children are and what a responsibility God has placed on each one of us to teach these little ones of His promises.

Illinois, Peoria

Pam Fritzenmeier

Sunday, May 17, our high school seniors were honored at the annual Senior Breakfast. They include Bro. Steven Davidovics (Bro. Fedi and Sis. Ruth), Heather Kieser (Bro. Randy and Sis. Brenda), Shelby Knobloch (Bro. Paul and Sis. Lynne), Abe Ramseyer (Bro. Dean and Sis. Holly), Deryk Rumbold (Bro. Gregg and Sis. Heather), Bro. Logan Sauder (Bro. David and Sis. Rachel), Jesse Stickling (Chris and Sis. Marsha), Sis. Shelby Vaughn, and Billy Waibel (Bro. Matt and Sis. Lisa). Our eighth grade graduates are Kleshawn Crowder, Dakota Fuller, Taylor Gibbs (Steve and Sis. Tarla), Alexander Hoerr (Mike and Lisa), Madeline Lafont (Bro. Steve and Sis. Heidi), Abram Meister (Bro. Dan and Sis. Susan), Sadie Rumbold (Bro. Gregg and Sis. Heather), Tasha Streitmatter (Bro. Ron and Sis. Lori), and Valen Williams.

We were blessed to have Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. Lavonne, Sabetha) with us May 17 and thank him for his ministry to us.

Baby Eva Kathleen was born on May 11 to Bro. Shayne and Sis. Emily Fehr of Wauwatosa, WI. Brady and Maddie are enjoying their newborn sister! They attend the Chicago church.

Their precious new addition is welcomed by her family and grandparents. Dave & Sis. Linda Fehr (Washington) and Bro. Dave & Sis. Kathy Obergfel (Peoria) are Eva’s grandparents.

Bro. Ryan and Sis. Shari Menold’s infant son, Clay, passed away May 25. Our sympathy and prayers go out to their family.

Sis. Shelby Vaughn’s half-brother, Alan, passed away suddenly May 29. Please keep her and her family in your prayers also.

Bro. Gary Unsicker and Sis. Marie Ricketts (Bro. Ken and Sis. Janice Steffen, Forrest) were married in Forrest May 31. We rejoice with them and their families!

Those desiring our prayers for health issues include Sis. Bonnie Bach and her brother, Duane (Barb) Bach, Sis. Ida Schwenk, baby Aleah Harter (Bro. Ben and Sis. Heidi), Sis. Nanette David, Bro. Harry (Sis. Loretta) Eisenmann, Mary Funk, Rosalie (Bruce) Johnson, Sis. Linda Miller, Mary See, and Andrea (Aaron) Staley.


Illinois, Princeville

Gloria White, Renee Herrmann

We were blessed by the preaching of Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago, IL), Bro. Matt Oesch (Sis. Shelli, Alto, MI), and Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sara, Bloomington, IL). We thank these brothers for ministering to us and pray that God will reward them for their service.

We rejoiced to hear the testimonies of Garrett Herrmann (son of Bro. Roger and Sis. Darlene), Todd Herrmann (son of Bro. Dean and Sis. Dawn) and Luke and Kristi Kieser (son and daughter of Bro. Tim and Sis. Denise Kieser). It is an encouragement to hear how God continues to call young men and women to a walk with Him. Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann assisted with their baptisms.

We express our sympathy to Bro. Mike and Sis. Sharon Menold at the death of their grandson, Clay Menold. Clay is the son of Bro. Ryan and Sis. Shari Menold, Peoria, IL. We ask God to comfort the family in this time of uncertainty and loss.

Our family members requiring hospital care this month are Sis. Doris Christ (Bro. Walter) and Sis. Jeanette Graham (Bro. Richard).
We are thankful that they have been able to return home. We ask that God will continue to strengthen them.

We were reminded recently of what God desires of us in our worship. God was not pleased with the sacrifices of the children of Israel, but was seeking changed hearts. Some of Christ’s harshest words were directed to the religious leaders who He accused of following their own righteousness. We were instructed again that God actively resists the proud.

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.”

Psalm 51:17.

Illinois, Roanoke

Barb Schwind, Judy Sauder


Kendall Knapp (Bro. Norm and Sis. Kathy) is traveling and working in Ecuador this summer. We pray for his health, welfare, and safety on his journey.

Proverbs 3:5, 6 “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

We pray for the Lord’s guidance for our graduating high school seniors: Clayton Barth, Madeline Blunier, Sis. Mindy Bradle, Bro. Andrew Fehr, Dillon Getz, Rebecca Hodel, Madison Leman, Curtis Moser, Shellie Rients, and Macie Sauder. Baccalaureate services were held on May 24. The Senior Class Breakfast was held on June 21.

We rejoice with Lydia Luginbuhl (Bro. Scott and Sis. Bev), who recently surrendered her heart to the Lord.

Wally and Sis. Marilyn Leman celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Sis. Leah Bertschi (Bro. Rich and Sis. Bev) plans to move to Haiti in September to serve as a teacher for the missionary children at Hospital Lumiere. Sis. Marisa Leman (Bro. Clark and Sis. Lisa) will be moving to Leo in mid-July to serve as the Foster Care Case Manager at Gateway Woods. We will miss them in Roanoke, but are excited to see how God will work in their lives to help others in their new positions.

Andrew Mangold (Bro. Matt and Sis. Jennifer) and Elle LeBaube (Dan and Mindy) were united in marriage on June 20. We wish this young couple God’s blessings. Andrew is currently serving in the military, and our prayers continue for his safety.

We thank Bro. Robey Shuck for organizing the Father-Son Campout on June 19. It was a good time of bonding and fellowship for our fathers and sons. Praise the Lord for a dry evening between our frequent rains!


God’s gift of new life has blessed families in our congregation. Bro. Brent and Sis. Marge Hodel welcomed a granddaughter, Summer Danielle, born May 23 to Bro. Danny and Sis. Sarah Bertsch from Bluffton.

Ethan Daniel was born to Bro. Fred and Sis. Jodi Leman on May 27. His sister and brother are Letty and Noah. Grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Cathy Kieser (Peoria) and Dennis and Sis. Karen Leman.

We welcome home Bro. Scott and Sis. Mandy, Bri, Chloe, and Gabby Yordy. They will be spending a couple of months in Roanoke before returning to the mission field in Haiti with MEBSH.

We thank visiting ministers, who faithfully shared God’s Word with us: Bro. Daren Metz (Gridley) on May 31, Bro. Dan Beer (Milford) on June 7. Bro. Tom Schambach (Elgin) and Bro. Jeff Leman (Bluffton North) on June 14. Bro. Ryan Hoerr (Princeville) spoke on “SINsitivity:
Love Not the World” on May 27 at our topical Bible Study.

We also thank those who served us June 15 for VBS. The theme for our younger students was “God’s Big Backyard”. The theme for our older students was “Serving Christ”. Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. (Morton) spoke on “Serve Family”. Bro. Ted encouraged us to develop a close vertical relationship with God, so that he will empower us to have positive horizontal relationships with family and others. He encouraged us to serve people (Mark 10: 42-45) in ways they want to be served, that says “I love you” to them, and voice thankfulness to others. Bro. Harvey Kaeb (Gridley) spoke on “Serve Friends”. Bro. Harvey shared the story of the man with palsy (Luke 5:16-26) whose friends let him down through the roof to get him to Jesus. He pointed out these men did not leave their less than perfect friend behind, but brought him to Jesus. We were reminded to be unselfish, compassionate, forgiving, encouraging, to keep our promises, and to seek to understand, not just to be understood. Bro. Craig Stickling (Peoria) spoke on “Serve Neighbors”. Bro. Craig shared the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) and asked us to consider who are we in that story. We should bear the infirmities of the weak and ask the Lord to show us who to help and how to help them. Bro. Brad Metz (Bloomington) spoke on “Serve Community”. We were encouraged us to remove the spiritual cataracts of conceit, confusion (all about me culture), complacency (oblivious to other’s needs), and chaos (too busy), and to show empathy and compassion to others (Hebrews 13:16). Bro. Jeff Neihouser spoke on “Serve Jesus”. He encouraged us to die daily to self, be under the Spirit’s control, be willing to wash other’s feet, and walk the second mile. When we know Jesus, we should want to serve others with gladness (Psalm 100:2). We appreciate all those who planned, taught VBS, helped with crafts, brought food, and many other behind the scenes jobs to give us a wonderful week to learn more about serving Jesus.

**Illinois, Tremont**

*Teresa Rowell, Janice Sauder*

We are very thankful again for visiting ministers who have shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our church. These include: Bros. Matt Feucht (Roanoke, IL), Jerry Wagenbach and John Steiner (Mediapolis/Oakville, IA), Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN), Glen Steiner (Winthrop, MN), and Akihiro Ito (Shioda, Japan). A special thanks to each one; especially Bro. Dewayne and Bro. Glen who also gave a presentation on the Dairy Project in Haiti.

*Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:* Matt. 7:7

Three dear ones gave a testimony of how God answered their prayers and opened the door of salvation unto them. We welcome Sis. Emily Schaefer (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Tammy), Bro. Darryl (Sis. Peg) Stoecker, and Sis. Mary Wagenbach (Bro. Ron and Sis. Liz) as a part of our body of believers. May they find grace to be Christ-like examples to all.

We congratulate Bro. Dallas and Sis. Rebecca Haerr (Taylor, MO) as they begin their marriage. Bro. Tom and Sis. Jane Bolliger and Bro. Shon and Sis. Peg Haerr (Taylor, MO) are the thankful parents of this new couple.

We also extend our best wishes to Bro. Jeremy Oswald and Sis. Charity Steffen (of Morton, IL) as their engagement was announced recently. Bro. Mike and Sis. Michelle Oswald and Bro. Dean and Sis. Carol Steffen (Belvidere, IL) are their happy parents.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Terry and Sis. Christine Koch and Bro. Ron and Sis. Liz Wagenbach at the death of their brother-in-law, Charles (Margaret) Densmore, of Tremont. May God comfort his family.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb Kaeb rejoice at the birth of their second grandson, Jordan Gage. Bro. Josh and Sis. Julie Stoller (Gridley, IL) welcome him home, along with big brother Tyson.

We warmly welcome Bro. Jeff and Sis. Carrie Rocke; their children: Christina, Kaia and Remington; and good friend Kelsey Sparks back to Tremont. The years they were away have brought changes, but we hope they will soon feel at home again!

The Christian fellowship
shared by the Princeville and Tremont churches when we gathered together for a Sunday afternoon meal and singing was a blessing to all. “Thank you” again to all who travelled from Princeville to be with us!

**Illinois, Washington**

**Marlene Prather, Jodi Fehr**

“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.” Psalm 122:1

We have had many joyful opportunities to be in God’s house over the past month. Our children recently enjoyed a week of VBS. What a joy it is to see them come so willingly into the house of the Lord to learn more of Him! We are thankful for each of the teachers, volunteers, and parents who made this week possible.

We have gathered for three weddings in recent Sundays. Sis. Amy Folkerts (Bro. Gary and Sis. Linda) was united in Holy Matrimony to Bro. Fritz Hinrichsen (Bro. Mike and Sis. Gerri) of Goodfield on May 17. Bro. Josh Pfaffmann (Bro. Robert and Sis. Lily) and Sis. Amber Fritz (Bro. Phillip and Sis. Jessica) were joined as one in the Lord on June 7. On June 14, Sis. Michelle Phillips and Bro. Merle Blunier of Eureka were married in the Lord as their children: Abby, Emily, Morgan, Dakota and Bowdrie witnessed their vows. Their parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Sally (dec.) Fritz and Bro. Roger and Sis. Wendy Blunier of Eureka. We give these three dear couples and their families our love and prayerful support as they each begin their lives together.

We have been blessed with many visitors. We sincerely thank Bro. Jeff Grimm (Sis. Ruth) of Goodfield, Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Tamara) of Wolcott, Bro. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth) of Wolcott, Bro. Bill Schick (Sis. Joan) of Magdalena, Bro. Jedd Rocke (Sis. Marsha) of Goodfield, Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue) of Detroit, Bro. Marshall Heinold (Sis. Jan) of Ixtlan, Bro. Tim Hohulin (Sis. Cathy) of Roanoke, Bro. Dave Hartter (Sis. Beth) from Sabetha, and Bro. Bill Wettstein (Sis. Heidi) of Eureka for sharing the Word.

As summer begins, we think of our recent high school graduates and wish them God’s nearness as they embark on the next phase in their lives. Graduates include Rachel Dreste, Emily Endress, Jackie Feucht, Amber Fritz, Esther Hofstetter, Jessie Jones, Valerie Knapp, Logan Koch, Promise Ledford, Kandace Leman, Yana Martin, Luke Pfaffmann, Megan Steffen, Matthew Stoller, Sadie Teubel, and Trent Wyss.

We extend our prayers to Sis. Linda Folkerts who has had some health concerns, Sis. Ruth Kellenberger who has been hospitalized recently, and to Sis. Marcia Koch for continued healing.

**Indiana, Bluffton**

**Suzie Fiechter, Kim Meyer**

Greetings of love! We have been blessed with another month of God’s faithfulness here in Bluffton. It seems like we were just recording last month’s happenings and here we are again. As time seems to fly by, it’s a comfort to know that God is here, unmovable, unshakeable. He was, and is, and always will be.

“Be still and know that I am God.” Ps. 46:10

Sometimes it’s hard to stop and just be still especially when our minds want to run in twenty different directions. We think of our dear loved ones (Bro. Jeremy Valentine, Sis. Luella Geisel, Sis. Marilyn Baumgartner, and Bro. Kevin Green’s mom, Yolanda) who are physically being still because of surgeries, infections or strokes. As they recover and endure these physical ailments, I pray it can be a special time for them to draw nigh unto Master Healer and feel His presence and nearness.

What will our response be when we come into God’s presence in heaven? I am sure that ‘being still’ will only be the tip of the iceberg. Oh, what a day that will be! And yet our flesh still grieves the loss of a loved one when they pass into eternity. Our Bro. Dick (Sis. Rita) Everett said goodbye to his dear mother, Phyllis.

Someday we will see our Jesus face to face, but His handiwork is all around us. One of His greatest masterpieces is the miracle of a newborn baby. It’s a little piece of heaven that tends to cause people to be still and gaze upon the His creation. Amy Peg was born to Bro. Matt, Sis. Tiffany, Hannah, Naomi, Staci, Tabitha, and Isaiah.
Drayer. And she is catching the loving eyes of her grandparents, Bro. Jerry and Sis. Lois Drayer and Bro. Derryl and Sis. Peggy Aschliman. Bro. Danny and Sis. Sarah Bertsch are taking it all in as they enjoy the birth of their first daughter, Summer Danielle. Her grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Carmon Bertsch and Bro. Brent and Sis. Marge Hodel of Roanoke. Silas John is another miracle for Bro. Micah and Sis. Rozanna Rauch. He will join his siblings: Cohen, Alayna, and Josie. Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Rauch and Bro. Jay and Sis. Rhonda Grube are blessed as grandparents to behold God’s handiwork in their growing families through baby Silas.

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Rauch have also seen the handiwork of God in their daughter, Sis. Hannah, as they announced her engagement to Bro. Andy Kaehr (Bro. Keith & Sis. Lou Ann). Bro. Ron and Sis. Linda Kipfer were also blessed to welcome their new daughter-in-law into their family as their son, Kyle, was wed to Ashley Pierce (Leroy & Sara). As these couples join hands and hearts, may it cause them to stand in awe of God’s goodness and glorify His name.

The ministers in Bluffton and Bluffton North have been extra busy this month helping out extra activities that took place in Bluffton. We appreciate your willingness and time. Bluffton was blessed to host the world invite again with almost 40 churches represented. Bro. Craig Stickling (Sis. Jackie) from Peoria spoke during the invite on “Your Ebenezer”. As I think about an Ebenezer, I also have to think of our twenty seniors who graduated this year. As they move beyond high school, do they have an Ebenezer in their life? If so, what will they do with it? How will they use it to draw closer to God? Bro. Vince challenged the seniors from Solomon’s reflections upon his own life recorded in Ecclesiastes – Pleasure and Possessions without a higher Purpose is Pointless. It was good for us to hear. It doesn’t seem like too long ago when these seniors were in Vacation Bible school, but now they are graduating! And speaking of Bible school, we had another wonderful two weeks of Bible School with over 400 children singing the Great Commission and to “Get On Board” the gospel train. There is so much fun, excitement and even craziness that surrounds these two weeks of Bible school. However, the theme this year said it like it is…Get on Board! No signal for another train, to follow on the line, oh sinner you’re forever lost, if once you’re left behind. As I sang through the tears trickling down my cheek, I thought of all the little faces that surrounded me and how badly I wanted them to be on board. We can’t make anyone get on board, but are we living in such a way that makes people want to get on board the same train we are riding?

**Indiana, Bluffton North**

Corinne Stettner, Amy Moser

“To prepare and prevent is better than to repair and repent.”

“Your Ebenezer” was this year’s theme for the third annual World Invite hosted by the Bluffton and Bluffton North churches. The weekend of May 16 was a blessing as brothers and sisters from 39 churches came together for fellowship, service projects, worship, and encouragement. Bro. Craig Stickling (Sis. Jackie) from Peoria, IL was a guest speaker and also preached the Sunday afternoon service at North. Thank you to all who came. Our young people came away strengthened and motivated in their walk with Christ.

The graduate breakfast was held on May 31 for our six seniors graduating this year: Lauren Brinneman (Bro. Dave & Sis. Deanna); Sis. Livia Frauhiger (Bro. Jeremy & Sis. Sally); Monica Frauhiger (Bro. Grant & Sis. Maura); Jonathan Gerber (Bro. Rod & Rochelle); Gavin Kaehr (Bro. Greg & Sis. Amy); and Sis. Paige Markley (Bro. Matt & Sis. Lisa). Let’s pray for these young

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matt. 28:18-20
adults, that as their paths take them many ways, they can trust in the One who holds their futures.

We just completed two weeks of Vacation Bible School. Our theme this year was “Get On Board,” and we had 409 children participate. We are excited as we continue to see increasing numbers of kids come from the community. What an amazing privilege we have of planting the gospel in the hearts of so many kids!

Our congregation has many reasons to rejoice this month. Bro. Matt and Sis. Tiffany Drayer had a baby girl, Amy Peg, on May 18. She joins a sweet group of siblings: Hannah, Naomi, Stacy, Tabitha, and Isaiah. Her grandparents are Bro. Jerry & Sis. Lois Drayer and Bro. Darryl & Sis. Peggy Aschliman. Also, Sis. Hannah Rauch, daughter of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy, announced her engagement to Bro. Andy Kaehr, of Bluffton Country, son of Bro. Keith and Sis. Lou Ann. It is a joy to watch the Spirit work in joining hearts together. We are thanking God for His goodness.

Sis. Javon Steffen, will be in Japan from June 4 to August 3 as she will be helping with Tokyo’s first VBS. If you would like to receive prayer and travel updates, you can email her at javonnicole@gmail.com.

Sis. Mary Leman will also be overseas this summer. She will be visiting Adam and Jenna Leman in Magdalena, Mexico, and helping with CVE’s summer school program from June through August. Let’s remember to pray for their protection, effectiveness, and safe return.

As a church body, we weep with those who weep. Bro. Brian Brewster’s grandmother, Kathryn Black, and Sis. Susan Maynard’s father, John Maynard, recently passed way. We pray the comfort of the Holy Spirit will be with them in the coming days.

**Indiana, Francesville**

*Jacki Huber, Mildred Clauss*

“Thankfulness is the seedbed of contentment.”

This statement was recently made in a sermon from our pulpit; and it has such merit!! A blessed thought for each new day!

We are thankful for visiting ministers during this past month: Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna) from Remington and Bro. Justin Meister (Sis. Amanda) from West Lafayette.

Valuable lessons were learned from a Topical Study of the Book of Jonah recently given by Bro. Brian Huber. We are blessed to have ministers who search the Scriptures that we might be encouraged along life’s way!

Bro. Harold Fritz (Sis. Sherry) and Sis. Margaret Gudeman (Bro. Willis) each spent time in the hospital; but we are thankful God has answered prayers for their healing. We extend sympathy to the family of Elmer Bucher who has gone to his eternal reward. His daughters are Sis. Linda Hodel (Bro. John); Mary Huber (Mark); Becky Barnes and Elaine Sanders (Jeff) and one son, Jim.

*“Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort” 2 Cor.1:3*

**Indiana, Indianapolis**

*Nancy Pfeifer, Sandy Lichtle*

“Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.” Matthew 19:6

We were blessed to have two weddings this month. On May 17, Bro. Jonathan Magnin and Sis. Katherine Whitler were united in marriage. Bro. Daniel Bollier (Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie) and Sis. Kaylin Leuthold (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Doreen) exchanged wedding vows on May 31. We rejoice with both of these couples and wish them God’s richest blessings.

Emmy Stieglitz (Bro. Greg and Sis. Lisa) and Brittany Lintner have found peace with God and man. We look forward to their testimonies and baptisms.

Congratulations to our two high school graduates: Sis. Leah Baumgartner (Bro. Greg and Sis. Missy) and Sis. Melissa Gudeman (Bro. Tim and Sis. Mim). Our prayers are with them as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

Bro. Bill Witzig (Sis. Conni) is mourning the loss of his brother, Bro. Bob Witzig (Sis. Terri, Gridley, IL). Our thoughts and prayers are with the Witzig family now and in the coming days.

We appreciate the servant hearts of Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda, Francesville, IN), Bro. July 2015    SILVER LINING  31
Mark Gerber (Sis. Barb, Bluffton, IN), Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Washington, IL) and Bro. Makoto Inoue (Sis. Anna, Tokyo, Japan) for sharing the Word with us.

Indiana, Lacrosse
Meagan Frank, Julie Rocke
“Faith is the victory! Faith is the victory! Oh, glorious victory, that overcomes the world.”
Tabernacle Hymns #412

This beautiful call of encouragement was the theme for our 2015 Vacation Bible School. Bro. John Leman (Sis. Tamara, Wolcott, IN) gave us a convicting and uplifting answer to the question “What is Faith?”. Bro. Troy Leyse (Sis. Kelly, Bluffton, IN) challenged us to have “Faith in Current Times”. Bro. Randy Mogler (Sis. Evie, Washington, IL) exhorted in ways of “Discerning True Faith”. We were blessed each night by the Spirit speaking through these brothers, and heartily thank them for their service. We also greatly appreciate the work of our Sunday School teachers who taught the students with stories and crafts, as well as the sisters who supplied the lunch each evening. Every effort to make the week a blessing was felt, as we certainly had no excuse to leave without our cups overflowing!

As always, our Sunday School Picnic was an afternoon of good food, fellowship, and songs of praise to our Creator. The children enjoyed the park in spite of the chilly weather, and presented their songs to us with an enthusiasm that brought smiles to our faces. Each class was presented their graduating gift by their teachers. We were encouraged as we saw how the seeds are being planted in the hearts of our future church.

The trustees and their wives greatly appreciate the efforts of each one, young and old, who came to help with our annual church cleaning. It was a blessing to work together as a body of believers, and then to be greeted by the fresh smell of a clean church the following Sunday!

Our hearts rejoiced upon hearing the announcement that our converts, Jaela Gudeman and Kyler Gudeman (children of Bro. Owen & Sis. Nicole) have made their peace with God and man and now desire baptism. Our prayers are with them as, Lord willing, we look forward to hearing their testimonies and witnessing their baptisms on July 18 & 19.

Indiana, Leo
Kirby Reutter
“For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another!” Galatians 5:13

One of my many faults is that I am not very good at syncing the Silver Lining schedule with the rest of the world’s schedule. Therefore, this month I tried really hard to find a theme to fit the quintessential American holiday—the Fourth of July. I thought this might be a good way to render homage to these (semi) United States. The only problem was the following: As I scanned my chaotic notes, I kept coming across memos regarding Ethiopia, Jordan, Japan, Nepal, Zambia, and the Dominican Republic.

First, we received this message from Zambia: “Dear Leo Sunday School: Thank you so much for supporting us. We appreciate your prayers and love very much. We will use the funds to directly support the Zambian people. The Zambian people also appreciate you. We tell them about the help you send on Monday mornings when we do Bible Study. It is so important for them to see the benefits of generosity. It is also important for us to show them how the body of Christ works together, each one doing his part, to further the Kingdom of God. We are teaching them ways to do this even in their own village. We love you and miss you. Hope to see you in July! God bless, Bro. Erik and Sis. Carrie Wiegand (Savannah, Jonas, Claire, Larissa).

And then we received this message from one servant in devastated Nepal: “I am not coming back to the US as planned. There has been so much to do, and so little time to do it, and especially in concern for our home children, so I decided not to. Thanks for your prayers as events continue to unfold here. Especially pray for our Guardian Village staff as they are working around the clock and are somewhat tired. Pray for wisdom, good strategies, rest,
and good health for all. Thanks for your prayers for me. I can feel your prayers surrounding me and am thankful to report that I am in good health.”

And then we received this message regarding our Ethiopia connections: “Bro. Jon and Sis. Amy Gerst will be returning to the US in a few short weeks after living for two years in Ethiopia. Our prayer support group has been considering ways to help them as they transition to life back in the States. Thanks for all that you do. We have seen so many times what a blessing church family can be and this is another opportunity to come alongside Jon and Amy in their work for the Lord.”

And then we received this message regarding our Japanese coalition: “The Sunday School will be collecting for Joel and Sally Kaufman. Joel and Sally have been diligently serving in Japan for more than 40 years. Thanks for your support!”

And then I realized that my growing list of birth announcements was embarrassingly back-logged. I remember the days (not so long ago) when local birth announcements simply entailed keeping up with the Oak House (our teen mom program). These days, however, not even birth announcements are American! Consider the following two examples: “Congratulations to Bro. Kyle and Sis. Tricia Fiechter on the birth of their son, Conrad!” (Kyle and Tricia live in Jordan.)

“How did you use your freedom in Christ this past Independence Day?”

“Congratulations to Bro. Josh and Sis. Kaitlyn Ramsier on the birth of their son, Oliver Isaia Ramsier!” (Josh and Kaitlyn live in the Dominican Republic.)

And then, just when I was starting to feel like a complete failure as a local reporter, I finally came across something stateside: “Congratulations to Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Maria Stieglitz on the safe arrival of their baby, Max Lyndan!” (Yes, I fully realize that all of these arrivals transpired months ago; please refer back to my earlier confession.)

And finally, by the end of the month, I decided to scrap the Fourth of July motif altogether. After all, this is what I had learned: True liberty is not enshrined in the American Bill of Rights (which, I sometimes surmise, might be better termed our Bill of Fights). Nor is true independence commemorated by an annual blast of colorful cacophony. Rather, true freedom was purchased on an old rugged cross over two thousand years ago when the most precious commodity in the universe was spilled for your sins and mine. And that, as it turns out, was not even an American event!

“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed!”

John 8:36

Jodi Beer, Minnie Beer

Our graduating seniors for 2015 were Kevin Schlipf (Bro. Rich & Sis. Kathy) and Colin Beer (Sam). We pray that God will be their guide as they start a new phase of life.

We are praying for our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH) as he is making progress with therapy after suffering a stroke.

Visiting ministers were Bro. Willis Ehnle (Sis. Lois, Peoria, IL) and Bro. Daron Price (Sis. Monica, Athens, AL). We also enjoyed visiting ministers for our Bible School. Theme for the week was “Ye that are Men now Serve Him”. Monday evening, Bro. Craig Stickling (Sis. Jackie, Peoria, IL) spoke on “Who is my neighbor? — Learning to serve like Christ”. Tuesday evening, Bro. Ryan Bertsch (Sis. Jessica, Bluffton North, IN) spoke on “Those who dared to believe”. Thursday evening, Bro. Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville, IL) spoke on “Teens — How the world glorifies sin”. Friday evening, Bro. Matt Feucht (Sis. Jennifer, Roanoke, IL) spoke on “Heaven is for real — Hell is too”. We thank all of these brothers for coming and serving us. May God be their rich rewarder.

Bro. Walt Steffen and Sis. Mayedene Lehman remain in the nursing home and need our prayers.

In June we celebrate Father’s Day. We thank God, that as children, He saw we would need a father and mother to guide
us in His ways. We thank our earthly fathers for their love, prayers, and support.

The Silver Thimble Club hosted ladies night out. We enjoyed good food, good activities, and good fellowship.

Indiana, Remington

Jenni Honegger, Marcella Tyler

We apologize that we neglected to report in last month’s article that convert Grant Knobloch (Bro. Neil and Sis. June) has found peace with God and wishes to be baptized. We ask for your prayers and encouragement for Grant, and we wish him God’s blessings as he looks forward to taking this next step in faith.

With Vacation Bible School as well as a topical Bible presentation, we have many visiting ministers to thank this month. Bro. Todd Stoller (Sis. Pam) from Latty, OH; Bro. Ron Isch (Sis. Jane) from Lamont-Gridley, KS; Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy) from Roanoke, IL; Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane) from Bluffton North, IN; Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie) from Elgin, IL; and Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna) from Toledo, OH were all a blessing to us with their teachings and their time. Many thanks to each one and we hope you come again soon!

We also want to remember to thank all the brothers and sisters from Wolcott who worked hard together to make the week of Vacation Bible School a blessed week of worship and learning and fellowship for all who attended.

May God bless your efforts and may the seeds of the Word that were sown bear much fruit in the hearts of our young people!

This month our thoughts and prayers are often with Bro. Greg (Sis. Heidi) Schneider as he has had surgery to remove a recently diagnosed tumor. Bro. Phil Isabell (Sis. Diane) had outpatient surgery and our prayers are also with him for his quick recovery. Sis. Marge Pitman has also spent time in the hospital recently. We ask that you pray for each of these dear brothers and sister as well.

Looking ahead to August and the general brotherhood conference, we want to once again remember to lift up our elders in prayer for the Spirit to guide their discussions and decisions. Since we can be confident that those are prayers that the Lord will honor, we also then want to seek to be submissive to the elder body’s guidance as a result.

Indiana, South Bend

Joshua Martinez

“The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.” Numbers 6:24-26

Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe hosted the annual S.E.E.D. Ministries (Haiti) Board meeting at their home. Our prayers and support are with this ministry that brings education and God’s love to Haiti.

We bid farewell to Trang Lee, a Vietnamese exchange student who lived with Bro. Don Lehman’s family for four months.

Our children enjoyed a time of blessing and instruction at Milford’s VBS. We thank all those who served our children.

May the Lord bless Bro. Nathan Steffen (Sis. Susan, Alto, MI) and Bro. Mark Klaus (Sis. Rebekah, Athens, AL) for their service from the pulpit.

“Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.” Romans 15:33

Indiana, Valparaiso

Sherry Meiss

Greetings to all in Christian Love!

Our spring program was such a meaningful day. If we would just listen to God and do what He tells us to do, He will take care of us even through the hard times. Thank you to all who participated putting this message forward. God’s Spirit did flow through you. Bro. Bruce and Sis. Bonita Frank (Cissna Park, IL) gave us the message this day. We thank them for their time spent with us. The Francesville Quartet, our Valparaiso singing group, Sis. Sharon Pratt & Sis. Latoya Thomas all blessed us with their heavenly voices. Then there was the special poem written by our Sis. Rachel Feller recited by Isaiah Thomas, son of Bro. Mike & Sis. Claudia Thomas, and the meaningful poem recited by Bro. Lyle Zeltwanger.

Plus, thank you to our many guests and visitors who came to spend time with us in God’s house.

Congratulations to all our
young people who have graduated. May you follow God’s plans for your future. It has been another busy season, but we are so glad the warm weather is here. My heart goes out to those who are being affected by all the rain.

We all have the very best Father of all. God loves and cares for us in His perfect way. To the many fathers that have touched our lives, thank you for being that example.

Continue to pray for those who are ailing and in need. Don’t forget each other as well.

If you’re in the area of Valparaiso, IN, feel free to stop in and visit. We are just south of Hwy US 30 on Hwy IN49.

Indiana, West Lafayette
Kris Widmer, Libby Wahl

“Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass on a summer day listening to the murmur of water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is hardly a waste of time.”
-J. Lubbock.

Let’s encourage each other to contemplative moments of rest during this lively season.

Vacation Bible School was a joy to our many children and could not have been so without the large group of willing hands serving the youth.

Sis. Annette Bahler suffered a car accident and has been home recuperating. We are quite grateful for God’s protection.

Bro. Sam Holliger is home from the hospital. He had not been feeling well for some time. Our hearts go out to him and his family with a serious cancer diagnosis. He would appreciate a card or phone call and most of all, of course, prayer. 958 Rowe Street, Frankfort, IN. 47041. 765.654.6810.

Bros. Steve Gutwein and Nick Waibel (Francesville) and Bros. Curt Frank (LaCrosse), Bruce Endress (Bradford), and Dan Kilgus (Remington) and their loyal wives were our pulpit and fellowship support this past month. Although we are bustling with a few new couples this past year, summers get slimmer with a much smaller college group. Vacationers - you are most welcome to worship with us.

“Summer is but a glimpse, of our life in eternity, for in the New Jerusalem, summer it will be.”
-C. Gavin.

Indiana, Wolcott
Beckie Lehman, Erica Blume

Each month, as we write this article, it is a blessing to look back and reflect on God’s provision. As a church we can see how God was caring for our needs. We were blessed this month to enjoy several visiting ministers. Bros. Ron (Sis. Jane) and Justin (Sis. Liz) Isch (Lamont/Gridley, KS) shared the Word over graduation weekend. Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy, Alto, MI) also gave of his time one Sunday. We appreciate these brothers being willing to serve us. We also enjoyed an informative evening with a special study on the Zion’s Harp. Thanks to our Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus for bringing us some history and background on our beloved hymns.

Congratulations to our many graduates this year. We celebrated with Valerie Edelman (Bro. Kip and Sis. Donita), Kurtis Allie, Leandra and Larissa Bahler (Bro. Mike and Sis. Jody), Lauren Schwab (Bro. Mark, Sis. Shari) and Sarah Bahler (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Heidi). God bless each of these young people as they begin the next step in their life’s journey.

We are pleased to welcome Bro. Todd and Sis. Teresa Earney along with their son, Bro. Trent, to our Wolcott congregation. They have moved here from Bluffton. We pray that they can quickly feel at home with us.

Our Sunday School children enjoyed a busy and productive week of Vacation Bible School this past month. With the help of the whole church, the children were able to hear Bible stories and learn important lessons while also participating in crafts and singing. Each night we had a visiting minister to share a lesson for the Bible Class and congregation. Thanks to Bro. Ron Isch (Lamont/Gridley KS), Bro. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin, IL), Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) for giving of their time and efforts to prepare and present a lesson.

We are rejoicing with David Lehman (Bro. Greg and Sis. Mary Beth) as he has made a
beginning in the Lord. Our prayers are with him as he has begun his repentance.

Bro. Gene Lehman (Sis. Verna) underwent surgery and a hospital stay this past month. We pray for God’s continued blessing and healing during his recovery.

**Iowa, Bloomfield**

*Teresa Schock*

Our lone high school graduate was Justin Birkner (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Angie). We are happy also that Justin has recently turned to the Lord in repentance and will never have to walk alone. Bro. Steven Schock (Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara) was our college grad.

Sis. Evelyn Metzger’s (Bro. Roy) sister, Sis. Donna Gerber from Lester, passed away. May God comfort those that are sorrowing.

Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH) ministered to us recently. He read the story of David & Goliath. I thought of the magnet my husband brought back from the World Relief project in Arkansas. It reads, “*All David had was faith and a ROCK… and he defeated a giant. All you need is faith in THE ROCK to defeat yours.*”

Many visitors came to celebrate Bro. Russell Wuthrich’s 90th birthday. Among them was Bro. Kim Sutter (Sis. Vonette, Taylor) who brought forth the Word.

We appreciate having ministering Bros. Brad Funk (Sis. Laura, Garden Grove), Dale Frank (Sis. Tina, Oakville/Mediapolis) and Aaron Frank (Sis. Sharla, Elgin, IA) take time to come and labor.

Funeral services were held here May 30 for Sis. Esther Rinkenberger. She and her husband, Bro. Cleo, lived here until their older years and then moved to the Skyline Apartments in Peoria, IL.

We were reminded recently that there are many people to pray for and that God does answer prayer. May we continue to pray for Bro. Roy Metzger (Sis. Evelyn) who has undergone heart surgery.

**Note of Thanks:**

My family and I want to thank all who remembered us the last few months. All the prayers and kind deeds were appreciated so much. Our love & God’s blessings to all. Sis. Mary Wiegand

**Iowa, Burlington**

*Ivy Steiner, Monica Eisenmann*

A wonderful gift was given to Bro. Seth and Sis. Brenda Hartter! Baby Asher Edwin was born May 29. It is sweet to see how much his siblings, Shadrach and Taren, enjoy him. Happy grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Melody and kind deeds were appreciated so much. Our love & God’s blessings to all. Sis. Mary Wiegand

Once again, Bro. Brad, Sis. Laura, Jaelah and Joel wish to send a special thank you to Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan Heimer for serving Garden Grove so we could attend a special occasion in our family. We had the opportunity to gather with many family members to celebrate Bro. Joel and Sis. Shirley Wuthrich’s 60th wedding anniversary. We are thankful our parents are enjoying health and have shared many happy years together.

I had to think of the song, *Faith of Our Fathers*, as we remembered our “earthly fathers” this month. We are so thankful our fathers taught us the truth, brought us to church and told us
“no” when some activity was not in our best interest. God bless you.

Garden Grove is on the way to everywhere. Stop by on your summer travels!

Iowa, Iowa City

Diana Butikofer

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Jon Pratt (Sis. Sharon, Valparaiso, IN) and Bro. Darin Massner (Sis. Twila, West Bend, IA). We appreciate these brothers’ willingness to serve us and trust the Lord will reward their labors.

Iowa, Lester

Audrey Metzger, Joyce Moser

As a church family, we “rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep”. We were deeply saddened with the passing of our dear Bro. Vern Knobloch as he slipped into eternity early Sunday morning, June 14, after a year and a half long battle with cancer. Even with sorrow in our hearts, we are so relieved his earthly suffering is over. He leaves behind his wife, Sis. Chalea, and seven children: Sis. Chelsea (Bro. Tristan) Kuenzi, Bro. Garth, Bro. Blain, Damon, Janel, Molly, and Korin, along with his mother, Sis. Elgeva, and his sisters: Sis. Carolyn (Bro. Dale) Hartzler, Rittman, OH, Sis. Donna (Mike) Barber and Sis. Linda (Brad) Klostergaard from our congregation, and Shirley (Bob) De Smet (Lester, IA), and one grandson, Kaiden, along with many other extended family members. We are thankful Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR) had a part in Bro. Vern’s funeral by having the grave side service. We hold this dear family up in our prayers and trust the Lord will abundantly provide for their every need.

We also extend our sincere sympathy to Michael and Ashley Leuthold in the passing of her grandmother, Mary Hansen, on May 30 and to Bro. Tim and Sis. Carla Feucht and their family as Sis. Carla’s mother, Candace Berndt, passed away unexpectedly on June 1. May the Lord grant His comfort and strength to these families during this time of sorrow.

Our church family rejoices with our new converts and their families. Tyra Knoblock (Bro. Travis and Sis. Kathy) and Heather Moser (Bro. Brad and Sis. Gloria) have turned their backs on the world and started down the path that leads to heaven. May they be strengthened and encouraged along the way as they dig deep and build on that Solid Rock of Jesus Christ.

“Baptized into Thy name most holy, O Father Son and Holy Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and lowly, among Thy seed, Thy chosen host; Immersed with Christ, I’m dead to sin; Thy Spirit now shall live within.”

Zion’s Harp, #41.

We welcomed Reagen Meyer (Bro. Brad and Sis. Trinda) into the brotherhood on the weekend of June 20 and 21. What a time of joy and thankfulness for the body of believers. We want to thank our Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA) for his labors that weekend along with our Elder Bro. Rod.

Several loved ones have been hospitalized recently: Bro. John Gerber, Sis. June Knobloch (Bro. Delbert), Bro. Marvin Metzger (Sis. Joleen), Sis. Pauline Knobloch, Ty Leuthold (Collin and Cheri), Sis. Mardi Leuthold (Bro. Larry), and Mallory Gramstad (Bro. Kjert and Sis. Michelle).

We appreciate Bro. Cory Metzger (Sis. Jodi, Wichita, KS) and Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Sally, Mediapolis, IA) sharing God’s Word with us this past month. May they be blessed for their labors.

Our Church “Call-In” number has changed. Here is the new information.

Lester Apostolic Christian Church
Dial-In Church Service
Phone No. (866) 906-9888
Conference Code: 9647260#

Iowa, Oakville-Mediapolis

Kelsey Banwart, Tami Lanz

Two couples were blessed this month with the safe arrival of newborn babies. On May 22, Bro. Joel, Sis. Abigail, and Weston Steiner welcomed Lacey Joelle into their family. Grandparents are Sis. JoAnn Steiner (Bro. Tom, dec.) and Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie Sinn (Silverton, OR). First-time parents, Bro. Josh and Sis. Karrie Lanz welcomed Kalvin Joshua into their lives on June 11.
Grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Timna Lanz and Bro. Jerry, Jr. and Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach.

We were thankful to witness the union of hearts on May 24 at the wedding of Bro. Cameron Sinn (Silverton, OR) and Sis. Erika Massner. Parents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie Sinn (Silverton, OR) and Bro. Troy and Sis. Joni Massner. We will miss Sis. Erika as she moves many miles away, but we wish them many blessings and much happiness in their new life together.

Also united in marriage were Bro. Jaydon Wagenbach and Sis. Risa Fehr on June 7 in Morris North, MN. Parents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Monti Wagenbach and Bro. Randy and Sis. Lori Fehr (Morris North, MN). Our church family welcomes Sis. Risa. We wish them God’s blessings as they start their life together.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers this month who were willing to be used to share God’s Word. They were Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA), Bro. Greg Fehr (Sis. Denise, West Bend, IA), Bro. Seth Hartter (Sis. Brenda, Burlington, IA), Bro. Dallas Massner (Sis. Christy, Burlington, IA), Bro. Philip Schulz (Sis. Kelli, Burlington, IA), and Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Washington, IL).

We held our Vacation Bible School the week of June 8-12 for the preschool through sixth grade, with a program on the last day. The children so eagerly and happily recited verses and sang songs. It was touching to see their sincerity. We pray that what they learn from God’s Word as youth will stay in their hearts throughout the rest of their lives.

On June 14, we voted in five new Sunday School teachers. They are Brothers Kyle Knapp, Dan Lanz, Jason Banwart, and Sisters Luann Schmidgall and Heidi Frank. We thank the Sunday School teachers who have finished their terms and gave of their time and effort teaching our youth.

Iowa, West Bend

Yvonne Bruellman, Becky Virkler

The government has set aside Mother’s Day in May and Father’s Day in June to honor our earthly fathers and mothers. More importantly, the Bible states: “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.” Exodus 20:12. We are so thankful for our earthly parents as we honor them in this season of the year.

The weekend of May 30 and 31, we were blessed to hear the testimonies of five dear souls who have answered God’s call. Our new brothers in faith are Braden Knobloch (Bro. Cameron & Sis. Tammy), Nathan Grimm (Bro. Jordon & Sis. Ann) and Tory Schmidt (Bro. Ted & Sis. Kelly). Our new sisters in faith are Andrea Knobloch (Bro. Jim & Sis. Sandy) and Calla Knobloch (Bro. Denton & Sis. Rose). Elder Bros. Paul Messner (Sis. Jan, Winthrop, MN) and Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN) were here to help Elder Bro. Wayne with this blessed event. Among our guests that weekend were ministering Bros. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA), Dallas Massner (Sis. Christy, Burlington, IA), Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City, IA), Merlin Meyer (Sis. Marilyn, Lester, IA) and Clint Schmidt (Sis. Maggie, Winthrop, MN).

June 13 and 14, the West Bend congregation hosted the Annual Sunday School picnic. Many young adults from churches in Minnesota and Iowa traveled to spend time together, being encouraged spiritually, making new and renewing old friendships from years gone by. Bro. Nathan Walder (Sis. Denise, Cissna Park, IL) reinforced the theme of the gathering which was - The Heavens are Praising. We appreciate his willingness along with the other ministers who spent the weekend with us: Elder Bros. Paul Messner (Sis. Jan, Winthrop, MN), Rod Bajema (Sis. Sue, Lester, IA), and Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN).

Our sympathy is extended to Ralph and Melanie Bormann in the loss of Ralph’s sister. “The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer: my God, my strength, in whom I will trust: my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.” Psalm 18:2.

Let all who have struggled this month remember this verse.
**Japan, Tokyo**  
*Marie Inoue*

This month we were privileged to hear the gospel message from Bro. Akihiro Ito (Sis. Carrie) from Shioda. We are always glad to have their family come to visit us. We also could hear Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Sis. Michelle) from Philadelphia, PA. The Sunday the Wiegands were here, one of our ladies’ meeting attendees was able to come. At a recent ladies’ meeting she asked what are some of the “little” things we can do for the Lord. We mentioned serving others, family, neighbors, those in need, help the poor, write notes of encouragement. When Elder Bro. Ben spoke, not knowing the lady was present or anything about her, spoke of the “little” things we can do for the Lord, mentioning those we had talked about, only he carried them a very important step further than we had told her at the meeting. Bro. Ben said we cannot do anything “big” for the Lord, but we can do many seemingly “small things” . . . and the Lord takes them and scatters them around until they become big. He gave us this teaching and many others. We thank Bro. Ben and Sis. Michelle for stopping by in Japan just to visit our church and brethren, and then continue on their way to Singapore for meetings.

Bro. Norbert Felso of Canada was also a welcome visitor. Our Sis. Kido from Kyushu also spent a Sunday with us. Sis. Javon Steffen has also arrived for a two-month stay. We are enjoying their fellowship and trust the Lord will bless their time with us.

Our yearly business meeting was held in May, reminding us to be thankful for those who carry out jobs to be done. Sis. Anna Inoue will help write this column from next month.

**Kansas, Bern**  
*Jill Meyer, Rita Menold*

We are thankful that Bros. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary; Zapata, TX), Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi; Wolcott, IN), Wayne Hartzler (Sis. Camille; Rittman, OH) and Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne; Sabetha, KS) were willing to share the word of God with us the past month. We were challenged with two hymns. Are we “Almost Persuaded” to begin our walk with Christ, but yet still lost? Or, can we joyfully sing “Take My Life and Let It Be” as we hand our entire life over to God and let Him do His work with us?

Gessica Renyer (Greg and Sis. Carol) and Ryan Tastove have announced their engagement! Our prayers are with this couple as they make plans for a life together.

We enjoyed our Vacation Bible School the week of June 8-12. The theme this year was “Growing God’s Fruit.” It was a week of blessings as we studied a few of the fruits of the Spirit. The theme song for the week was “Standing on the Promises”. It brought a smile to our faces as the children sang it loud and with joyful energy! Our prayer is that each of these children will bring forth God’s fruit and will always be rooted on the promises of God!

**Kansas, Ft. Scott**  
*Karen Kellenberger*

The first week of June was Vacation Bible School. We thank the teachers and helpers, including those who provided snacks each night. The Sunday School picnic, which included a song program by the children, was held at Gunn Park. It’s always a blessing to see how eager and excited the students are to learn Bible lessons as well as joyful songs of praise.

As I write this on the eve before Father’s Day, it is a joy to think of the life and heritage of my dad, who has finished his race, and all godly fathers who, although not perfect, have compassionate, caring and tender hearts. In experiencing that love from a dad, we come to know something more of the compassionate, tender, loving heart of God, who cares for His children even more than an earthly father possibly could.

“Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth those that fear Him.” Psalm 103:13

**Kansas, Kiowa**  
*Millicent Frieden, Janice Bahr*

Harvest is almost here in our area, and in Sunday School. I asked the children to name some Bible stories that talked about wheat. We discussed several, like the Parable of the Sower, and the wheat left in the corner of the field
for Ruth by Boaz, and the wheat falling into the good, rocky and weedy ground. But when I got home, I started looking for other places in the Bible where wheat was mentioned, and came up with:

for Ruth by Boaz, and the wheat falling into the good, rocky and weedy ground. But when I got home, I started looking for other places in the Bible where wheat was mentioned, and came up with:

38: Genesis 30:14, Exodus 4:9-13, and 9:31-32, Deuteronomy 8:7-8 and 32:13-14, Judges 6:11 and 15:1, Ruth 2:23, 1 Samuel 6:13 and 12:16-18 and 29:2-3 and 34:22, 2 Samuel 17:7-29, 1 Kings 5:11, 1 Chronicles 21:18-28, 2 Chronicles 2:8-10 and 2:15-16, Ezra 6:9, Psalms 81:13-16 and 147:12-14, Isaiah 28:24-25, Jeremiah 12:13 and 41:4-8, Ezekiel 4:9-13 and 27:17 and 45:13, Joel 1:8-11, Amos 8:4-6, Matthew 3:11-12 and 13:24-30, Luke 3:16-17 and 16:1-7 and 22:31-32, John 12:24, 1 Corinthians 15:37-38, Revelation 18:11-13. It’s very interesting to see how much wheat is a part of our lives, and how many ways we can learn a lesson from its life, death, and growing into a new life again. It’s just like the people who choose to live for Christ and have a hope after death of eternal life through the blood of our Lord Jesus who was the perfect Sacrifice, and shed His blood on the cross for everyone. (Not just the rich or the prominent or the good, but for this whole world if they choose to repent and be born again, and be faithful until our Lord either returns or takes us home after death.) We are truly a blessed people.

For all those who support our services at church and the Rest Home, for coming to fellowship singings or suppers or for those who visit others in sickness or the aged, thanks and God bless. We never know how much we can give a lonesome soul a reason to smile or feel loved. Inasmuch as we do it for the least of these, we do it for the Lord.

Those who love God will love their neighbor.

**Kansas, Lamont-Gridley**

**Dorene Metzger**

Bro. Michael Luthi (Elder Bro. Jay & Sis. Jane) was united in marriage with Sis. Julie Eisenmann (Elder Bro. Brad & Sis. Cindy) in Chicago. Many of our congregation attended this joyous occasion. Those who were not able to attend were privileged to be able to hear the event by streaming it to our local church. We are prayerful that God will bless this marriage and we welcome Sis. Julie to our church family. They will live in Emporia. Bro. Michael works with his father in Lamont and Sis. Julie plans to teach Spanish in a local school this fall.

One of our ministers spoke about a poem about a young wrangler who got a job on a ranch. His first day of work was helping to build fence. He felt he was above the job of being on the business end of a hand post hole digger, but got to work. His line of post holes wove a strange line because when he encountered rock as he dug, he just moved over a bit and dug again. At the end of the day, the foreman had the young wrangler survey the uneven line of post holes. The foreman said the two of them would be redoing the holes tomorrow and doing it correctly, OR they would both lose their jobs.

Is this how we do the work that God gives us so we can glorify our Heavenly Father or a sloppy version that we must redo?

Bro. Max Burnham hosted his annual fish fry for our congregation and other guests on Memorial Day. We all look forward to this annual event.

As I visited two cemeteries for the Memorial weekend, the flowers decorating the graves of loved ones were so beautiful in the gently falling rain. I also viewed the American flags snapping in the wind as they decorated the graves of veterans. My husband was a veteran from the last few months of the Korean War, but he spoke occasionally about his MOS in caring for soldiers as they came home-sometimes shattered in body as well as in mind. It seems every war has sad casualties that continue to live, but whose minds are tortured by the awfulness of conflicts. Do we as citizens in this Land of the Free appreciate what our soldiers endure, by God’s grace, to keep freedom alive for each of us?

A poem that holds meaning for me comes to mind for reflection.

**Another Soldier is Coming Home**

"His back is bent and weary
His voice is tired and low
His sword is worn from battle"
And his steps have gotten slow
But he used to walk on water
Or it seemed that way to me
I know he moved some mountains
And never left his knees.
He faced the winds of sorrow
But his heart knew no retreat
He walked in narrow places
Knowing Christ knew no defeat
But now his steps turn homeward
So much closer to the prize
He’s sounding kind of homesick
And there’s a longing in his eyes.

Chorus:
Strike up the band
Assemble the choir
Another soldier’s coming home
Another warrior hears the call he’s waited for so long
He’ll battle no more
But he’s won his wars
Make sure Heaven’s table has room for at least one more
Sing a welcome song
Another soldier’s coming home.”

-By Janet Paschal

Kansas, Sabetha

Crystal Hartter, Dawn Strahm

Once again we rejoice with the angels in heaven over souls that have come seeking the Lord. We are thankful that Kody Beyer (Bro. Klint and Sis. Kara) and Rachel Harter (Bro. James and Sis. Sandy) have made a beginning in repentance.

Bro. Mark Schurter (David and Pamela Schurter, Washington, IL) and Sis. Tasha Knoblock (Bro. Steve and Sis. Rose Ann) were united in marriage on May 31. We pray God will bless them as they journey on as one.

We thank the visiting ministers who labored to bring forth the Word: Elder Bro. Rod Bajema (Sis. Sue, Lester, IA), Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI), Bro. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) and Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX).

Many single brothers and sisters gathered at Sabetha and Bern for a Young Group Weekend over Memorial Day. It is always a blessing to meet those from far and near that gather for Christian fellowship.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was enjoyed by many on Saturday, June 6. Many friendships are strengthened among our dear children as they spend time together. Thank you to the teachers that take the time to host this gathering.

Kansas, Wichita

Max and Judy Reimschisel

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” Eph.2:10

We are so thankful for ministering brothers that share God’s word. Bro. Klint Beyer (Sis. Kara) of Sabetha, KS was here for an invite-a-guest weekend with his family. Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane) Morton, IL encouraged us to be faithful to the Lord Jesus.

Sis. Rose Ann Reeves was hospitalized for a time, but is now at home. Our prayers are for her comfort and healing during her time of treatments.

Sis. Ann Warner was hospitalized with broken ribs. She is at home now. Prayerfully she will have a good recovery.

Sis. Judy Reimschisel is still recovering from her fall. She is able to put some weight on her right foot, but still has many weeks of healing for the other.

Prayer is the key that opens the door for God’s healing. We are thankful for all the prayers and encouragement.

Vacation Bible school was a joy for the Sunday school children as they learned lessons about Daniel. Since we are a small group, we combined with Gridley-Lamont group. It is always a highlight in the summer activity. The following week, they will be with the Kiowa Sunday school. These are good times for bonding with other kids who are enthusiastic about Jesus.

The older Sunday school class, after studying the first and second chapters of Proverbs, had an opportunity to express their thoughts on the values of fathers. One student expressed his this way: Fathers have unconditional love that never runs out and never waivers no matter if you are good or bad or young or old. They also have knowledge and wisdom. Knowledge is knowing the facts. Wisdom is knowing how to use knowledge and apply it to your life for our daily lives in God. The knowledge and wisdom that fathers have is given to them by God. Proverbs 2 says that if you search for knowledge and wisdom you will find it, because as verse 6 says “For the Lord grants
wisdom from his mouth come knowledge and understanding”. “God has and does give this to fathers that seek him and asked for knowledge and wisdom.” Our fathers use this wisdom to help guide us through our lives, both spiritual and physical, and as we learn from them we learn to go to God for our wisdom and we will become more wise and mature as we get older in the Lord.

“And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.” Gal. 6:9-10.

Mexico, Ixtlán

Ruth Gerber

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine, no more can ye, except ye abide in me.”

John 15:4

We were once again blessed by our Elder Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb Leman’s visit this month. Their visit was made extra special to the church in that they spent time in many of the homes visiting one-on-one. We thank God for their time and love for the church here. On Thursday, Bro. Mike read from Proverbs 24 and discussed our spiritual “field” and what things can be “thorns and nettles” and likened our “stone wall” to keeping Christ’s commandments.

We were also blessed to have Bro. Joe and Sis. Sue Klotzle from Altadena with us for the same weekend. Bro. Joe’s Sunday message from John 15 emphasized the importance of “abiding” and “loving.” Thank the Lord for the teaching and for the special fellowship we enjoyed.

We are thankful for the new Sunday School teachers that have been serving this term. Bro. Alfredo Torres is helping with the oldest class. Sis. Elsa Sibaja is once again working with the middle class. Sis. Socorro Chavez has started with the youngest children.

Michigan, Alto

Renee Steffen, Shelli Oesch

“Busier as the days go by...
The days seem busier as they go by, I stop to pause and wonder why?
Do I spend as much time in prayer,
As the thoughts I give to daily care?
Is it just a test of my time,
As I rush about, without reason a rhyme?
This year here is now half over,
What do I show, except that I’m older?” -IbG~res

Graduations, vacationers, planting gardens, weddings being planned, the list goes on...and here in Alto it’s all happening. This time of year brings much excitement, anticipation and stress of so many things happening or needing to be done. Let us strive to give as much energy and dedication to our daily ‘stillness with God’ as we do in making time for everything else.

We wish to congratulate our high school graduates on a job well done. Abigail Steffen, Sarah Sixberry, Katelyn Horvat, Breanna Oesch, and Maria Blough: As you go forward to the next step of more and different challenges, may you meet them knowing God will lead the way and guide each step, if you but follow the path He has planned for you.

Bro. Otto and Sis. Pat Schlatter were pleased to share that their granddaughter, Amber Schlatter, was joined in marriage to Hunter Alsup.

A beautiful little bundle of joy was added to the family of AJ and Brett Oesch. Ayla has a new baby sister, Ruby.

We were blessed to have several visiting ministers here this past month. It is with gratitude we express our appreciation to each one for the message brought forth in humble sincerity: Brothers Matthew Steffen (Sis. Deanna) from Princeville, John Lehman (Sis. Tamara) from Wolcott, Mark Wettstein (Sis. Karen) from Lacrosse, and Myron Knobloch (late Sis. Beth) from Lester. We were especially touched that Bro. Myron was willing to come and spend a week with his daughter, Sis. Laura Kaeb, so shortly after losing his precious wife, Sis. Beth.

So often we miss out on the miracles that happened around us. But this past month we experienced a miracle here in Alto. We were so thankful to hear that many prayers were answered on behalf of Angie Sixberry (Jason), and that God saw fit to spare her life. What joy we all felt when we
saw her in church again. We pray God will continue to touch her with His healing hand.

We extend our sympathies to Bro. Lloyd Blough (Sis. Ella Louise) as he grieves the death of his sister, Eleanor Noon.

“Hold me daddy, he heard her say, I miss you since I’ve moved away. I know I seem too grown up now, but I still need your ‘hold’ somehow. Listen dad, he seemed to shout, you don’t understand what my life’s about! I know I don’t do things your way, but I still need to know, you think I’m okay.”

Happy Father’s Day to all the dads out there.

Results from our recent annual business meeting brought about these changes: Brothers Casey Banks, Terry Steffen and Sister Susan Steffen will be teaching Sunday school. Bro. Fred Oesch will be an usher. Bro. Ron Erismann will be the secretary. Sisters Gina Blough and Heather Steffen will be on the kitchen committee. Bro. Warren Rauhe will be a trustee. Bro. Aaron Plattner will be on world relief committee. Thank you to all who previously held these offices, and diligently strove to serve in these areas. May God richly bless you and may those going into these offices know and feel the support of the brethren here.

**Michigan, Bay City**

Sarah Knochel

Our prayers are with those who have been suffering from infirmities of the flesh. Sis. Marilyn Munsel and Bro. Fred Ruegsegger (Sis. Marilyn) have both spent time in the hospital recently. We trust that God will provide healing all according to His will.

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.”

Romans 5:1-5

**Michigan, Detroit**

Manuela Denes

Our church was blessed with an educational and inspiring Saturday evening presentation of highlights from a group of brethren who recently enjoyed a tourist trip to Israel, with emphasis on “walking where Jesus walked” and our opportunity today to “walk with Jesus”.

We were fortunate to have a number of visiting ministers this past month and would like to thank them and their wives for taking the time to travel and be with us: Bro. Jim (Sis. Candy) Meiss of Austin, TX; Bro. Jon (Sis. Nancy) Kokanovich of Phoenix, AZ; Bro. John (Sis. Connie) Lehman of Bern, KS; Bro. Steve (Sis. Myra) Ringger of Bluffton North, IN and Bro. Tom (Sis. LuAnn) Troxel of Lacrosse, IN. Thank you!

Prayers are greatly appreciated for Sandy Novotnik, mother of Kim Smith, as she has been readmitted into the hospital. Hopes are for the Lord to help their family and Sandy deal with her illness and to keep them strong during this difficult time.

Prayers are also extended to Sis. Melinda Lanski as her cousin, Jennifer Eyerly, of Mansfield, OH is recovering from surgery. At times like these we can’t rely only on ourselves. We need to depend on the prayers of everyone, and, as a church family, we surely see the power of prayer!

The annual summer Wednesday evening children’s program G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together) will meet during Wednesday evening church on July 29, August 5, 19 and 26. The program will include singing, Bible memory and lesson, and activities. Children, Kindergarten through 8th grade, are invited to attend and “Grow in Faith Together”!

It’s hard to believe, but here we are at the end of June with July just around the corner! We warmly invite all to attend the 27th Annual Choir Benefit on Saturday, July 18. Dinner at 5:00 will be followed by the musical program at 7:00. No RSVP is needed, so if you’re free, please come visit us!
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
**Brenda Messner, Betty Lindwall**

We were so blessed to have visiting ministers, Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth) from West Bend, IA and Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi) from South Bend, IN come to worship with us. We are thankful for their efforts.

Our congratulations and God’s blessings are extended on the marriage of Braden Mogler (Bro. Kent & Sis. Mary) to Caroline Kovaleski. The couple was married in Panama City, FL on the beach surrounded by family and friends. They are residing in Oakland, CA completing both their residencies. A reception is planned at Minneapolis church on Saturday, November 21 for the couple.

A wedding shower was given for Micah Mogler (Bro. Kent & Sis. Mary) and Jenny Owen. We wish them blessings on their upcoming marriage.

Our High School graduates this year are Adrian Rocke (Bro. Duane & Sis. Bonnie) and Kala Schmidt (Cory & Nikki). We wish them God’s blessing on their future.

Minneapolis, Morris  
**Amy Ekren, Heidi Pfaffmann**

We are thankful once again for the visitors who came to be with us this month. Among them were Elder Bros. Rod Bajema (Sis. Sue, Lester, IA) and Jon Schmidtall (Sis. Julie, Mediapolis, IA), along with ministering Bros. John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Mediapolis, IA) and Michael Wagenbach (Sis. Erica, Wolcott, IN).

We continue to think of those suffering ailments of the physical body. Bro. Chris Moser (Sis. Marion), Joyce Greiner, and Brian (Lisa) Tolifson have been hospitalized recently. Our prayer is that God would heal as He sees fit and provide comfort along the way.

“I need the prayers of those I love, While trav’ling o’er life’s rugged way. That I may true and faithful be, And live for Jesus every day. I want my friends to pray for me. To bear my tempted soul above. And intercede with God for me, I need the prayers of those I love.”

*Hymns of Zion #201, vs.1*

Minneapolis, Morris North  
**Lois Schmidgall, Wanda Gramm**

“And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.” 1 John 1:4

Elder Bro. Paul read the Memorandum to us this month. It is with deep appreciation and privilege that we are able to listen and hear the concerns that our elder brothers have for our church.

“In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.” Proverbs 3:6

High school and college graduates this year are Michael Stoll (Bro. Ed and Sis. Ginny), Tristan Schmidt (Bro. Clint and Sis. Magdalena), and Leighton Messner and Landon Messner (Elder Bro. Paul and Sis. Jan). We pray God’s blessings on them as they begin their new life together.

“A man that hath friends must
shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24

We thank the West Bend, IA church for hosting the Youth Fellowship weekend. So many new friendships are made and old friendships renewed. We pray that these relationships will be with our youth for the rest of their lives.

"Yet the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life." Psalm 42:8

We continue to pray for Sis. Georgia Messner in her recovery and Bro. Ernie (Sis. Marcella) Dapper as they are hospitalized this month. We also pray for Bro. Kenneth (Margaret) Messner as he continues his cancer treatments and Bro. Mike (Sis. Joyce) Messner as he battles health issues.

**Note of Thanks:**
The family of Delores Messerli thanks you for all of your prayers and words of comfort. A special thank you to her church family, near and far, who visited her while she was in the assisted living and nursing home the past 9 years. Those visits were such as blessing to her.

**Missouri, Kansas City**
*Joan Fehr*

We were thankful to have visiting minister Bro. Mark Ruefner (Sis. Julie) from Mansfield with us recently. We pray he will be blessed for his efforts!

Earlier in June, our Sunday School children enjoyed a week of Vacation Bible School. On Friday evening, the students held a program for the rest of our congregation. It was a joy to hear what they had learned during the week. Following the program, our elder Bro. Randy spoke to the children. A special thanks to our local brothers and sisters for all the effort they put forth so that our Sunday School students could enjoy a week of learning more about God. May God richly bless all those who participated.

Saturday, June 13 was our semi-annual work day. Thank you to all of those who helped with the upkeep of our church building and the church grounds. Many hands make the work much lighter!

**Missouri, Lamar**
*Venetta Banwart*

We would like to thank our visiting ministers for feeding us from His Holy Word and for the Christian fellowship we had each weekend they were here: Bro. Virgil Metzger, Chicago, IL (Sis. Mary); Bro. Dale Moore, Elgin, IA (Sis. Cheryl); Bro. Dennis Rassi, Austin, TX (Sis. Diane); Bro. Curt Rassi, Tremont, IL (Sis. Kathy); Bro. John Hartman, Fairbury (Sis. Rosemary); Elder Bro. Gary Hertzel, Sabetha, KS (Sis. Ellen); Bro. Mitch Fehr, Morris, MN (Sis. Abbie). May God bless each one and all those that came with them to worship here in Lamar.

Our hospital patient this month is Bro. Leonard Braker (Sis. Bonnie). We are thankful that he was able to be moved from Springfield, MO to Lamar, MO and is able to enjoy more visitors.

**Missouri, St. Louis**
*Kary Mangers*

Summer travels are going strong. We notice both with visitors and our own congregation gone.

Thank you to the visiting ministers this past month who took time out of their schedules to support us. We truly pray you feel the Lord’s blessing for this service. We had Bro. John and Sis. Heather Rassi (Tremont), Bro. Matthew and Sis. Jennifer Feucht (Roanoke), Bro. Chris Wuetrich (Chicago), and Bro. Nick and Sis. Sandra Waibel (Francesville). We would also like to acknowledge the children of these families and other ministers’ families that have come. May they be blessed for their part in their parents’ calling and service to the Lord and others.

**Missouri, Taylor**
*Marcia Sutter*

The following were hospitalized during the past month: Bro. Vernon (Sis. Judy) Huber, Sis. Becky Huber (daughter of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Judy Huber), and Sis. Ruthie (Bro. Louis) Hoerr. We pray that the Great Physician will lay His healing hands on them.

On 6/3/15 Bro. Jim (Sis. Diana) Butikofe r from Iowa City came and gave our monthly Wednesday night Bible study. We wish him and his family God’s
richest blessings for coming to serve us.

Bro. Dallas Haerr and Sis. Rebecca Bolliger both of Taylor were united in marriage on 6/7/15. Parents are Bro. Shon and Sis. Peggy Haerr of Taylor and Bro. Tom and Sis. Jane Bolliger from Tremont, IL. Bro. Tom assisted Elder Bro. Kent Heimer with the marriage service. We wish them God’s blessings for their marriage.

Other visiting ministers on 6/7/15 included Bro. Craig (Sis. Jacqueline) Stickling, Bro. Dan (Sis. Julie) Koch, and Bro. James (Sis. Brenda) Fehr.

On 6/13/15 and 6/14/15 was our Invite-a-Guest weekend at Taylor. Bro. Jerry (Sis. Christine) Meeks from Sabetha, KS and Bro. Tim (Sis. Jonell) Ramser ministered to us on Sunday. We appreciate their willingness to come and serve us.

Merry Ann Maynor and her daughter, Kimberly Maynor, have started repenting. We are so happy for them and wish them God’s blessings.

Ohio, Akron
Carla Miller

We are thankful for our visiting minister this month, Bro. Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH).


Bro. Les and Sis. Judi Steidl are thankful for the arrival of their granddaughter, Charlotte Ann, born May 22 to Nick and Heidi Coffman.

Bro. David, Sis. Betsy, and Drew Virkler are thankful for twin boys, Kyle Loren and Clayton Dennis, born May 28. Grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gayle Virkler (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene Dettwyler (Silverton, OR).

On June 11, Bro. Tom, Sis. Laura, Zalán, and Eszter Bako, who are currently living in Pogány, Hungary, welcomed Jenő András into their family. Grandparents are Sis. Dianna Bako (Bro. Eugene, dec.) and Bro. Greg and Sis. Joy Stoller (Rittman, OH).

We are rejoicing that Mya Steidl (Bro. Andy and Sis. Mary) has turned to the Lord in repentance.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Joyce Gasser as she recently moved to the Eureka, IL area.

We are grateful for God’s provision of renewed health for Bro. Leon Graf after a recent hospital stay.

Sympathy and prayers are extended to Bro. Peter Zarkovacki (Sis. Margaret) in the passing of his brother, Vlada Zarkovacki (Germany).

Ohio, Columbus
Julie Grimm

“We blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.” Eph. 1:3

We were blessed with spiritual blessings as we gathered around the Word of Life brought forth by visiting ministering Bros. Brian Huber (Francesville, IN), Don Steidl (Akron, OH), Brett Lanz (Rittman, OH), and Loren Schenk (St. Louis, MO). God bless them and their families for serving us.

Recently, Joshua Grimm moved back from Duluth, MN. We welcome him back to our Columbus church family.

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.” Hymns of Zion #95

Ohio, Junction
Elizabeth Manz

“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.” Deut. 6:5-7

Mark and Tiffany Hurd are glad for the safe arrival of Jacoby James on May 22. His sisters are Emma and Abrie. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Pete and Sis. Helen Hurd. On June 1, Betsie Rae was born to Bro. Jim and Sis. Elizabeth Manz. Her
grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen Manz and Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Schrenk. Bro. Dave and Sis. Kathy Manz have been blessed with another grandson, Gabe David, born to Bro. Matt and Sis. Deanna Manz (Toledo, OH). Bro. Les and Sis. Karen are thankful for another grandson, Mack David. He is the son of Bro. Brad and Sis. Tami Hartzler (Rittman, OH). Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser welcome another granddaughter, Eva Sue, into their family. Her parents are Bro. Brad and Sis. Amanda Gasser (Latty, OH). We pray that each of these families will experience God’s grace and blessing as they teach, train and instruct their children to love the Lord.

We are thankful to have Lidija Varga back assembling with us after her extended stay in the hospital. Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily) was set back by a stroke and has not been able to gather with us. He has been doing rehab and is seeing steady improvement, thanks to the many prayers offered on his behalf.

We were blessed to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of three young women: Sis. Shana Manz (Bro. Chris and Sis. Erica), Sis. Heather Manz (Bro. Tony and Sis. Denise), and Sis. Jaci Schlatter (Bro. Denny and Sis. Laurie). We are thankful for the work God has done in their lives! Elder Bro. John Laukhuf (Sis. Marcia, Latty, OH) was able to fill in as host Elder and assisted Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) for the weekend. We are grateful for how God works details out for His Glory. Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA) and Bro. Bill Wettstein (Sis. Heidi, Eureka, IL) also shared the Word with us this month and we thank them for their labors.

Ohio, Latty
Carmen Stoller, Mindy Stoller
Greetings of love in our Savior’s name! We are thankful to report three new converts this month who have turned to the Lord in repentance. They are Dana Rosswurm (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Amy) and Travis and Ann Stackhouse. Ann is the daughter of Bro. Leon and Sis. Deb Klopfenstein. May the Lord bless them as they walk with Him.

Bro. Brad and Sis. Amanda Gasser are the happy parents of Eva Sue born on June 16. Helping to welcome her home are siblings: McKenzie, Josie, and Zion.

Grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser (Junction, OH) and Gary and Sis. Susan Murray (Smithville, OH). May the Lord grant this couple wisdom and joy as they raise this little one!

We were blessed to have Bible School the week of June 15-19. We pray that the students were blessed and the seeds that were sown in their tender hearts will one day bear fruit. May the Lord bless Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN), Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI), Bro. Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit, MI), and Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN) for speaking to our high school students during this week. We also wish to thank Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL), Bro. Curt Kaufman (Sis. Caroline, Tucson, AZ), and Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN) for ministering to us this month.

Ohio, Mansfield
Elizabeth Walter
A recent highlight for many of us was to begin the summer with a week of Vacation Bible School. We are thankful for the Sunday School teachers, ministers and each one who made such a week possible. Our children enjoyed nightly Bible stories, crafts and class activities. The visitors who willingly served the adult class were Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend, IN), Bro. Wayne Hartzler (Sis. Camille, Rittman, OH), Bro. Adam Uhler (Sis. Ann, Smithville, OH), Bro. Todd Stoller (Sis. Pam, Latty, OH), and Bro. Nelson Beer (Sis. Minnie, Milford, IN). We thank each of these couples for their sacrifice of time and the spiritual encouragement they shared!

We appreciated the services of Bro. Matt Manz (Sis. Deanna, Toledo, OH), as he recently preached the Word. May we remember not only our visitors, but also our home ministers, who diligently bring God’s message each week.

Our hearts and prayers go out to those who have suffered from illness this month. We
think of Sis. Miriam Bird, Bro. Dave Eylerly (Sis. Edna), and Bro. Larry Bocka. May each one feel a measure of health and strength return as God wills.

Ohio, Rittman

Julie Steiner, Maria Beery

“Lo, Children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.” Psalm 127:3

Bro. Sam and Sis. Joy Gardner welcomed Trig Storm into their family. He joins older siblings Kora, Cray, and Link. Grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Bonnie Ingold and Bonnie Gardner. Mack David made Bro. Brad and Sis. Tami Hartzler first-time parents. Grandparents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Bev Hartzler and Bro. Les and Sis. Karen Manz (Junction). Gary and Sis. Susan Murray are thankful for the safe arrival of another granddaughter, Eva Sue Gasser. Parents are Bro. Brad and Sis. Amanda Gasser (Latty). Siblings are McKenzie, Josie, and Zion. We wish these families well as they adjust to this new chapter of their lives.


“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Matthew 6:33

This is our prayer for our 16 graduates. Congratulations and God’s blessings to Tyler Atanasov, Garret Ball, Anne Beery, Kassidy Deuber, Kody Gasser, Rebecca Gasser, Katie Havanchak, Sarah Hartzler, Tony Hartzler, Ashley Jenkins, Joel Kipfer, Rachel Nussbaum, Sis. April Schar, Jenna Stoller, Anna Tieche, and Elizabeth Winkler.

Bro. Myles Rufener (Bro. Dan and Sis. Karen) and Sis. Katie Fetzer (Bro. Andy and Sis. Elizabeth Fetzer, Smithville) were united in marriage on May 31. We welcome Sis. Katie and look forward to having her assemble with us!

We rejoice with Elsie Stoller (Bro. Greg and Sis. Joy) as she begins her walk with the Lord. We wish her God’s grace.

We wish Sis. Joyce Gasser God’s nearness as she relocates to Illinois. Sis. Joyce will be missed.

Our hearts go out to Sis. Elverna Zollinger, Sis. Carole Steiner, and Sis. Norene Miller (Bro. Mike) in the passing of Sis. Roberta Stoller (Bro. Andy, Smithville). Sis. Carolyn Hartzler (Bro. Dale) laid to rest her brother, Bro. Vern Knobloch (Lester). May these families feel our prayers during this time and take comfort in the hope of being united in heaven someday.

Thanks to ministering Bros. Randy Gasser (Detroit), Dale Zettwanger (Morris North), and Scott Wegman (Taylor) for serving our church. May God bless you.

Thanks be to God for His faithfulness through times of rejoicing and times of sorrow.

Ohio, Sardis

Faith Beard

Congratulations to our high school graduates, Jared Ramsier (Bro. Mark and Sis. Miriam) and Mason Indermuhle (Eric and Lisa). We pray for God’s continued presence and direction in this change in their lives.

We wish for the Lord’s blessings in the marriage of Jason Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam) to Samantha Cassaday, on May 24. May God be the center of this new union as they now reside in the Sardis area.

On June 9, Bro. Allen and Sis. Janet Indermuhle rejoiced at the birth of their newest grandson, Jaxon Grey, firstborn to Zach and Staci Reilly. Then, a few days later on June 12, Bro. Ed and Sis. Dee Beard were blessed to do the same with the arrival of Greyson Dale, newest son to Brian and Sarah Sokolowski. Greyson is also welcomed by big siblings, Emma and Joseph. When we consider the gift of a new baby, we remember the words of Jacob when he introduces his family to Esau as “the children which God hath graciously given thy servant” (Genesis 33:5).

We were blessed to be joined at our annual Sunday School picnic by Bro. Matthew and Sis. Deanna Steffen (Princeville,
IL) as he spoke to the students about “The Blood of Christ”. We extend our sincere gratefulness to Bro. Matthew for not only this, but also for leading our Sunday worship the next day and, later, giving us a presentation on the Apostolic Christian Services (Home for the Handicapped).

We thank the Great Physician for healing powers upon Sis. Kristy Joos (Bro. Jeb) and Bro. Bill Brake (Sis. Miriam) as they recently underwent surgical procedures and hospitalization. We praise the Lord that they have been able to experience healing.

Ohio, Smithville
Sara Crist, Kara Stoller

It was a great blessing for our church to witness the marriage of Bro. Myles Rufener (Bro. Dan & Sis. Karen) to Sis. Katie Fetzzer (Bro. Andy & Sis. Elizabeth) on May 31. Despite a thunderstorm and no electricity during the service, God’s loving hand was evident upon these two and we wish them God’s richest blessings.

We rejoice with Bro. John & Sis. Janice Rufener as they have welcomed a new grandchild into the family, five-year-old Atiyah Joy. Atiyah’s parents Bro. Jordan & Sis. Joy Stoller (Rittman OH) are in the process of adopting this precious girl. Praise God that He sets the lonely in families! (Psalm 68:6a)

We witness seasons of rejoicing and seasons of sorrow as a church. With great sadness we said an earthly farewell to a beloved sister in faith, Sis. Roberta Stoller, on June 9. We offer prayers and condolences to the family: husband, Bro. Andy Stoller; children: Sis. Gwen Riggenbach (Bro. Jason), Gina Brake (Cliff) and Kirby Stoller (Carrie); as well as a brother, Bro. Gaylord Beery (Sis. Cheryl).

Sis. Florence Hartzler is recovering from a recent hospital stay. Our prayers are with you for a speedy recovery as God wills.

Our prayers and love go out to the recent high school graduates as they begin this new stage of their lives: Haley Dotterer (Bro. Steve & Sis. Amy), Shawn Ault (Bro. David & Sis. Kathy), Kolstin Hartzler (Bro. Bill & Pam), Ty Ramsier (Curt & Heather), Joe Smith, and Christian Steiner (Bro. Kurt & Robin).

“In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.” Proverbs 3:6

Thank you to our visiting ministers Bro. Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit MI), Bro. Jason Dotterer (Sis. Lynn, Forrest IL), Bro. Don Steidl (Sis. Nan, Akron OH), and Bro. Bob Riggenbach (Sis. Lori, Rittman OH). God bless you for preaching the Good News to thirsty souls!

Ohio, Toledo
Deanna Manz, Jenny Manz

On May 19, Sis. Teresa Rywalski lost her father-in-law Pete Rywalksi. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Sis. Teresa and her family.

Our congregation also has reason to rejoice this month as we welcomed a new baby on May 20. Bro. Matt, Sis. Deanna, Troy, Lanae, Tyler and Reagan are thankful Gabe David has safely arrived. Grateful grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Kathy Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Mark and Sis. Jeannine Masters (Mansfield, OH).

Visiting us this month in the ministry was Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington, IN). We wish to sincerely thank him for sharing the Word, and trust the Lord will bless them for their efforts in visiting us.

Ontario, Kitchener
Johanna Fortenbacher

We’re all so thankful we had ministers who came to preach the truth. The brothers that came were: Don & Connie Manz from Junction, Warren & Bonnie Zahner from Rockville, Tim & Christa Wiegand from Leo, and Jeremiah Psinas from Morton. All of us here appreciate having you ministers and the people that come with them.

Congratulations to Elmer and Alma Gingrich’s daughter, Lois, who graduated this year. She plans to take a year off and then continue studies at a local university. We hope she keeps her plans local.

Bro. Phillip Ricketts from Eureka church is enrolled in a college here and plans to study for about 2 years. It will be so nice to have him with our group.
“One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh; but the earth abideth for ever.”
Ecclesiastes 1:4

Oregon, Portland
Louisa Gallup

We thank our visitors and especially the song leaders and ministers from Silverton, OR for their support. Visiting ministers from Silverton were: Bros. Ron (Sis. Liz) Jones, Don (Sis. Linda) Sinn, Jim (Sis. Tresa) Zollinger and Chris (Sis. Mary) Kuenzi. Our offer our thanks to them and their families for blessing us with their fellowship.

Oregon, Silverton
Kelsey Walder, Ann Kuenzi

May 17 we celebrated our graduates’ accomplishments with a potluck and singing. Our prayer for these young men and women is that they will seek our Father’s guidance for their lives. The graduates are: Ben Folia (Bro. Peter and Sis. Elizabeth), Jake Johnson (Damon and Alex), Janelle Kuenzi (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Jennifer), Kaitlin Kuenzi (Bro. Aden and Sis. Becky), Jodi Roth (Bro. Jim and Sis. Deb), Savannah Sinn (Bro. Dean and Sis. Heidi), Travis Sinn (Bro. Tom and Sis. Edith), Shalylee Snook (Bro. Jason and Sis. Colette), Sis. Kiersten Stadeli (Bro. Nick and Lori), Nick Von Flue (Bro. Dan and Sis. Becky) and Andrea Walter (Bro. Chad and Sis. Megan).

Sis. Becky Von Flue (Bro. Dan) has had another surgery on her hip. Our prayer is she can be healed. She commented that this is the 11th or 12th surgery she has had on it.

Believing God has led them together in marriage, we rejoice with Bro. Cameron Sinn (Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie) and Sis. Erika Massner (Bro. Troy and Sis. Joni) from Oakville-Mediapolis. Their wedding day was May 24. Our Silverton reception for them was June 7. We want to welcome you, Sis. Erica, to our Silverton congregation.

We were blessed to have Bro. James Fehr (Sis. Brenda) from Tremont, IL visit and minister to our church.

Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene Dettwyler are excited to add two new grandsons to their family. Bro. David and Sis. Betsy Virkler (Akron, OH) have added twin sons to their family. They have named them Clayton and Kyle. Sis. Marlene can relate to the challenges/blessings of raising two at once, as she is a twin, and her and Bro. Loren also had a set of twins (Sis. Jackie and Sis. Jodie).

First-time parents are Bro. Darren and Sis. Rachael Sinn. Their new little son, that has made them a family, was born May 28 and is named Brooks Darren. Joyful grandparents are Bro. Bruce and Sis. Amy Rosswurm (Latty, OH), and Bro. Don and Sis. Linda Sinn.

The weekend of June 13 and 14 was Bible Class Weekend. We are thankful that Bro. Justin and Sis. Marcia Koch from Washington, IL could spend time with our Bible Class. On Sunday afternoon, the Bible Class enjoyed a potluck for Bible Class students and their families at the Fellowship Center. The entire church enjoyed a singing following the potluck.

Sunday June 14, Sis. Nicole Kuenzi (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Jennifer) and Bro. Mark Dietrich (Jim and Joan) became engaged to be married. We rejoice with them, and look forward to their wedding in the future.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank each and every one of you for all the meals, texts, emails, gifts and lovely cards we have received upon the death of my brother in law. We cannot possibly thank you enough and pray that God would bless each of you. Through faith, we trust He would never let such acts of love and kindness go unrewarded. We are so thankful for our church family. Many thanks, Bro. Greg and Sis. Susan Stadeli

Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
Laura Isch

Philadelphia Church appreciated elder Bro. John Wiegand (Silverton, OR) sharing in Holy Communion with us. This is always a sobering time to remember Christ’s suffering and death for our sins. We also remember the fellowship with the brethren that His death has made possible. May God bless Bro. John and Sis. Jane for being
with us to share in the blessings of Communion.

We enjoyed having visiting ministers with us this month. May God bless Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH) for being willing to stand and preach the Word.

Our prayers are with Bro. Daryl Luginbuhl (Sis. Norma), as he was hospitalized this month. May God grant healing and recovery and be with us all as we strive to serve God together in unity.

Tennessee, Nashville
Mike and Monica Fritz

The Lord has blessed us with warm rains and summer sunshine. The towering magnolias and silky mimosa trees are in full bloom down here in the south. I recently passed a church sign along the highway that read: “The birds are back, the grass is green, the flowers are blooming--God did it again!” What a heartfelt statement as we thank the Lord for His continued faithfulness every season.

We are thankful for the ministering brothers who traveled to serve us: Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sara, Bloomington, IL), Bro. Brandon Emch (Sis. Maria, Kansas City, MO), and Bro. Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL). We have also been blessed by the fellowship of visitors from Fort Scott, KS, Forrest, IL, and Milford, IN.

We rejoice with Bro. Buck and Sis. Taunia Henry with the birth of their new son, Elijah Jordan on May 23. Excited siblings are Samaria, Josiah, Isaiah, Nehemiah, Judaea and Moriah.

We congratulate our graduating high school seniors, Mieke and Selena Fritz, daughters of Mike and Monica Fritz. We pray God’s blessing upon them as they seek His will in the future.

As summer school break is upon us, our congregation has been traveling a lot as some of the children eagerly attended Vacation Bible School in Forrest, IL and Gridley, IL, our Central IL Apostolic children’s camps, and the Memorial Day Weekend gathering in Athens, AL. What a blessing to share in the fellowship of our brethren throughout the land.

Our Sunday School was excited to reach its year-end goal of raising money to sponsor an eight-year-old girl, Jonise Castel in Haiti, through our Apostolic World Relief Sponsorship program. It has been exciting to the children as they have written and received letters from her, knowing that they are making a difference for Christ in the life of another child around the world.

If you are traveling to or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. Often we gather on Saturday evenings for fellowship, and all are heartily welcome. Please contact us to confirm the schedule. Also, we typically meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. for call-in services and would welcome any midweek visitors. Contacts: Bro. Don Sauder 615-373-8928 don.sauder@juno.com or Bro. Buck Henry 615-920-9584 buck@forhisglorypublishing.com.

Texas, Austin
Candy Meiss

Sending our love and greetings from Austin.

We have been strengthened in recent weeks by God’s Word shared by visiting ministers: Our Deacon Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata), Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville), and Bro. Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucy, Eureka). Ministers scheduled include: 7/5: Bro. Leland Platter (Zapata) and Rittman.

We were blessed by those who helped with Vacation Bible School, both from our local brethren and for those who traveled from the north. We were thankful to be able to hold VBS at the park and at church each day. We pray the Lord will bless the seeds that were planted in the hearts of the precious children.

Our hearts go out to our dear friends Stephen and Karen Chambers and their daughter Carol Ann in the loss of Stephen’s mother, Doris Chambers. May they feel our love, prayers and sympathy.

Our thoughts go to our loving fathers this time of the year as Father’s Day approaches. We are thankful for wonderful examples of those in our lives who we look up to and think of those who have gone on before
us. May we not only give praise to our earthly fathers, but also to our Heavenly Father who has given to us life eternal through His Son Jesus Christ.

We welcome anyone passing through to worship with us. Please refer to the minister’s directory for directions and contacts.

**Texas, Dallas-Ft. Worth**

Services are generally being held the second Sunday of each month at the Holiday Inn Express, 4450 W John Carpenter Freeway, Irving TX. Please call ahead to verify. Leland and Mary Plattner 956-265-0351 or Dennis & Diane Rassi 512-321-2345.

**McAllen, Texas**

*Kristi Plattner*

We sincerely appreciate and thank Bro. Nathan Wiegand (Sis. Laura, Goodfield, IL) who ministered to us this month. The following churches are scheduled for services: Forrest, IL (6/21), Elgin, IL (7/12), Kansas City, MO (7/26), and Peoria, IL (8/9).

We welcome anyone coming to South Texas and ask that you inform us of your plans so that we can prepare for meals and fellowship. Occasionally there is a schedule change, so if you plan to be with us on Sunday, please verify the date by calling the Plattner’s at 956-607-8329 or access www.acmission.org and view the updated minister rotation schedule.

Sunday services are held at 10:30 and 12:30 at the Holiday Inn Express, 1921 South 10th Street. Take the 10th Street Exit off I-83 and go ½ blocks south. Please see the ministers’ directory for local contact information.

**Texas, Zapata**

*Mary Plattner*

Anyone coming to South Texas is most welcome to visit in Zapata. If you do plan to come for a weekend during the summer, please contact us. We sometimes go to McAllen or Austin for Sunday instead of having services in Zapata during the summer months.

**Vermont, Clarendon**

*Nathan and Miriam Reutter*

The first flowers of spring have passed the prime of their beauty and others have begun to enter theirs. It brought to mind the realities of our lives. One generation comes, flourishes, then fades, and then the next comes along and has its opportunity. It made me think that we have but one chance at life, and the legacy we leave will be remembered for several generations. By God’s grace, I need to do better. Do you?

The ministers who came to serve us this month encouraged us to a more faithful life in the Lord Jesus. We deeply appreciate their faithful loyalty to the Lord’s leading in their lives. To my scattered mind, their willing service to us spoke louder than their words. A warm thank-you to the following ministers and their wives: Bro. Warren and Sis. Bonnie Zahner (Rockville, CT), Bro. Dan and Sis. MaryLou Goric (Rockville, CT), and Bro. John and Sis. Pam Reinhard (Bluffton, IN). Whether the ministers are from far or near, the precious Word of God is heard, we are edified, and the Lord is lifted up. We rejoice in this.

With no other news to share we wish to invite all to our little church. You are welcome to worship and fellowship with us anytime.

Contact Bro. Nathan and Sis. Miriam Reutter at 802-447-2426 or nmrbenn6@gmail.com to let us know when you are planning to be in our area so we can accommodate you.

Service times are as follows:

- Midweek services (contact local brethren)
- Sunday AM service: 10:10 AM
- Sunday PM service: 12:15 PM
- Sunday school is held during the morning service.
The News & Notices section of The Silver Lining provides a way for qualifying non-profit entities to make the brotherhood aware of church-related events, opportunities, needs, and services that would be of special interest to Apostolic Christian Church of America members and regular attendees. Email us at editor@acsilverlining.org for a copy of our advertising policy, which specifies who may advertise, sizes, file formats and deadlines.

News & Notices

Home-Based & Adoption Case Worker Needed - Gateway Woods

Gateway Woods has a need for a full-time Home-Based & Adoption Case Worker. This position provides the opportunity to work partially with adoptive families and partially with hurting children and families in our Home-Based Program. Requires a Bachelors Degree in Social Work or a related field, experience working with children and families preferred.

Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of children. Contact one of the brothers below for more information concerning this position.

Jeff Waibel
Director of Clinical Services
PO Box 125
Leo, IN 46765
888.443.4283
jeff.waibel@gatewaywoods.org

Lynn Stieglitz
Counseling Elder
15417 Doty Rd.
New Haven, IN 46774
Cell: 260.466.6712
lynnstieg@gmail.com

Alternate Houseparent Needed - Gateway Woods

Houseparenting at Gateway Woods offers an opportunity for a couple, directed of the Lord, to come to work in a full-time on going ministry at Gateway Woods. Due to a change in staff, we have a need for an Alternate Houseparent couple. This position offers competitive wages and generous benefits and a close relationship with brothers and sisters whose hearts and lives are dedicated to a common mission with an eternal reward. If you feel the call to explore this possibility, please call one of the brothers listed below.

Clint Plattner
Residential Program Manager
PO Box 125
Leo, IN 46765
888.443.4283
clint.plattner@gatewaywoods.org

Lynn Stieglitz
Counseling Elder
15417 Doty Rd.
New Haven, IN 46774
Cell: 260.466.6712
lynnstieg@gmail.com
Summer Worship Services - July 19 and July 26 in Colorado
Breckenridge River Mountain Lodge in Summit County

In addition to our regular worship schedule in Aurora, if the Lord is willing, we plan to hold services at the following location: 100 South Park Avenue, Breckenridge, CO 80424
Office: (970) 453-4711

Breckenridge is located in Summit County. If you take the Frisco exit on Interstate 70, Breckenridge is about 9 miles past Frisco on Highway 9. It is less than 2 hours from Granby, Glenwood Springs, Denver, and Buena Vista. There is free parking available in lots north and south of the entrance that are only about a 5 minute walk away.

Morning song service will begin at 10:15 A.M.; worship service at 10:30; followed by lunch and afternoon service. Ministering Brothers from the Denver congregation will be supporting the service; however we welcome and encourage visiting ministers to support this effort also if your travel plans bring you out west this summer. The intent of these services is to alleviate some of the crowding that we tend to experience during the busy summer travel season. (We don’t want all our visitors to avoid Aurora!) We welcome all our visitors and deeply appreciate the fellowship that we share in Christ, whether in Aurora, or at the optional locations.

For more information, and to help us plan more effectively, please notify Bro. Tom Leman if you will be attending services on any of these dates. (303) 696-1301 E-mail: lemantom@comcast.net

Teaching Position Available - Gateway Woods

Gateway Woods has an opening for a teacher at Gateway Woods School. Gateway Woods School is a fully accredited educational facility serving 5th-12th grade students who have difficulty in public school. Qualifications include a Bachelor’s Degree in Education and/or an active teacher’s license, preferably in Social Studies or Science. Special Education Certification and previous teaching experience is especially useful, but not required. If you hold these qualifications and have a heart for children, please ask the Lord if this is the position He has in mind for you. For more information please contact one of the brothers listed below.

Adam McAfee         Lynn Stieglitz
Director of Education       Counseling Elder
PO Box 125,              15417 Doty Rd.
Leo, IN 46765              New Haven, IN 46774
888.443.4283              260.466.6712
Adam.McAfee@gatewaywoods.org lynnstieg@gmail.com
Christian Guesthouse and Worship Services in Rochester, MN

Accommodations for Mayo Clinic outpatients and families:
Three bedrooms with private baths, laundry, kitchen and family room area.

Sunday Service: (held monthly at guesthouse residence) 10:00 AM and 12:30 PM
For schedule, see: www.acmission.org/minister-rotation
For information and reservations, contact caretakers:
Bro. Mark and Sis. Sandy Stork
4733 Birdie Lane NW
Rochester, MN 55901
(507) 288-0072

Mid-week Service: (held on 3rd Wednesday in Rochester area)
For information, contact:
Bro. Jim and Sis. Deb Tilbury
(507) 281-2875

LISTEN TO SERMONS
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on your smartphone, tablet or computer

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also includes current and past issues of The Silver Lining

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On your computer
• Go to accentral.apostolicchristian.org or visit a specific congregation’s website

If your church is considering making its sermons available online through AC Central, visit apostolicchristian.org/sermons to learn more or sign up.
Bible Distribution: Sharing His Word in Love

*Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people. Psalm 96:3*

Together we can provide Bibles for seeking people. This may be someone you attend school with, someone you work with, or someone God has shown you at a gas station. Bibles and approved Bible story Books are available. Carrying a New Testament to distribute can help you remember what our real task is. To order, contact:

Apostolic Christian Church Bible Distribution
651 E. Peoria Street
Goodfield, IL 61742
Phone: 309-965-2141
bibledistribution@acpublications.org

Opportunity to Serve with ACWR in the USA

The USA Committee of World Relief is seeking willing servant hearts for leadership roles in their Disaster Rebuilding Ministry. These projects typically run from January through March with some additional time required on either end. A minimum commitment of 3 to 4 weeks is desired with longer terms also available. The ability and willingness to work in cooperation with other leadership positions is paramount. Open communication and team effort is critical.

A stipend is offered to those serving in these positions. A complete job description is available for each position.

No decision has been made on the location of the 2016 project.

Please prayerfully consider if the Lord is calling you to serve in this ministry. For additional information, please contact Bro. Les Schambach - USA Committee Administrator: usa@acwr.org 630-247-5271.

Leadership positions available are…

• **Project Coordinator:**
  Construction knowledge required. Oversee the entire ministry-project assuring all aspects are covered and the project runs smoothly and in a God-honoring manner. Through open communication with all supporting team members, strive to maintain a working relationship that reflects brotherly love and esteem. Responsible for the Spiritual aspects of the ministry.

• **Construction Coordinator:**
  Construction Experience Required. One or more positions depending on the scope of the project. Responsible for the construction phase, securing materials, instructing and assigning volunteers to appropriate jobs and supervising their work.

• **Accommodations Coordinator:**
  Head Cook - Plan and prepare all meals; breakfast, lunch and dinner. Purchase all food, drink and related paper products. Clean and maintain dormitory housing.
Apostolic Christian Men’s Hymn Sing
Washington, IL
August 29 & 30, 2015

Lord willing, the Washington congregation will be hosting the 2015 Apostolic Christian Men’s Hymn Sing. We are looking forward to a blessed weekend of singing and fellowship. We have been blessed with a rich heritage of hymn singing, and our goal for the weekend is to glorify God through song as well as record a CD that will be uplifting for many in the future.

The website www.acmensing.com has been updated, and will be the main source of information about the Men’s Sing and will also be used as the preferred method for sending out further communications. From the website, you are able to register, get directions, see the schedule of activities, view the music, and much more. Please bookmark this site, create an account, and register for the Men’s Sing.

If you plan to attend, please register by July 1, 2015 so we can accurately prepare for meals and accommodations. Please also spread this communication to any other brothers interested. It would also be helpful if there was a designated brother from each church who could keep us updated on the number of brothers attending from your church. If you are unable to access the internet, you may write or call:

Matt Wyss
216 W. Robinson St.
Goodfield, IL 61742
Phone: 309-397-5919
Email: mattywss@yahoo.com

50-Year Commemoration of Fairbury Apostolic Christian Church
August 29 & 30, 2015

If you have previously attended the Fairbury Church, you are cordially invited to attend a commemoration in recognition of 50 years since our current church building was erected and dedicated.

Saturday, 6:30 P.M. at FAIRBURY FELLOWSHIP HALL
Singing and Historical Presentation

Sunday, 10:00 A.M. at FAIRBURY APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Worship services 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Light meal served immediately following afternoon service

PLEASE REPLY BY JULY 15 if you plan to attend the Saturday program, come to worship with us on Sunday, stay for the meal, and/or need overnight accommodations.

Contact: Duane and Arlene Kilgus: timberline44@frontier.com, (815) 692-2589 or (815) 848-2589
Haiti Medical Work Teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Year 2015</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Jul 11-18</td>
<td>Lydia Bertschi</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Lumiere</td>
<td></td>
<td>309-253-0402</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Team</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lydiabertschi@yahoo.com">lydiabertschi@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Aug 8-15</td>
<td>Lydia Bertschi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Lumiere</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inventory Team</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lydiabertschi@yahoo.com">lydiabertschi@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Sept 12-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cancer Screening</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lydiabertschi@yahoo.com">lydiabertschi@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Oct 10-17</td>
<td>Lydia Bertschi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental Team</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lydiabertschi@yahoo.com">lydiabertschi@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Nov 7-14</td>
<td>Lydia Bertschi</td>
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<td>Hospital Lumiere</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nursing Proficiencies</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lydiabertschi@yahoo.com">lydiabertschi@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
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<td>Lydia Bertschi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Jan 9-16</td>
<td>Lydia Bertschi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Lumiere</td>
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<td>Cancer Screening</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lydiabertschi@yahoo.com">lydiabertschi@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Feb 13-20</td>
<td>Lydia Bertschi</td>
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<td>Hospital Lumiere</td>
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<td>309-253-0402</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Medical</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lydiabertschi@yahoo.com">lydiabertschi@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Mar 12-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eye Specialty</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lydiabertschi@yahoo.com">lydiabertschi@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Apr 9-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental Team</td>
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Haiti Work Teams - Lifeline

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<tr>
<td>Dumay</td>
<td>Mar 3-10</td>
<td>Neil Bahler</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lifeline</td>
<td></td>
<td>1-815-848-3861</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:nbahler@gmail.com">nbahler@gmail.com</a></td>
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Jamaica Work Teams

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<th>Project</th>
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<tr>
<td>JDV</td>
<td>Jun 27-04</td>
<td>Harvey Lands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCD</td>
<td></td>
<td>330-466-8274</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:landisv@aol.com">landisv@aol.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Akron SS</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rittman SS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Smithville SS</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>If you are interested in sponsoring a work team to Jamaica</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>contact Loren Dettwyler at <a href="mailto:lmdettwyler@gmail.com">lmdettwyler@gmail.com</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Haiti Awareness Tours

If you’d like to see the ministry of Hospital Lumière and other Haiti projects in person, but do not have the time or desire to participate in a week-long work team, please consider our new Awareness Tours. These are quick trips that give interested parties the opportunity to meet our missionary families, learn more about the hospital, see the completed renovations and work in process, and visit some of the other World Relief projects in southern Haiti. These trips are scheduled, as needed, based upon demand and the next two are Sept. 12-16, 2015 and Mar. 4-9, 2016.

To learn more, contact: Rich Bertschi at 309.467.2351 or lemangm@mtco.com

Rick Wuetherich at 219.863.4163 or rick@wuetherichfarms.com
Haiti Volunteers Are Needed

Medical Teams
Physicians, surgeons, anesthesiologists, pharmacists, laboratory techs, radiology techs, ultrasound techs, occupational and physical therapists, nurses and other specialists who are willing to assist with general medical and surgical care are invited to participate on weeklong medical teams. See the current schedule (including dates for 2016).

Construction Teams
Electricians, cabinet makers, plumbers and carpenters are needed to continue the renovations. The work is great. This is an excellent opportunity to help in the work and become more familiar with the culture and Hospital Lumiere campus. See the current schedule.

Church Ministers
The work at Hospital Lumiere is more than material and the needs are more than physical. The Hospital staff and the team workers understand the true objective is that all may come to know and glorify God through a born again life, a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and living in obedience to the Bible. Apostolic Christian Church ministers are needed to assist in this role as they accompany medical and construction teams to Hospital Lumiere. Team ministers coordinate daily devotions and provide spiritual support for the team members, hospital staff, patients and their families. For more information contact Rich Bertschi at 309-467-2351 or lemangm@mtco.com.

Mexico Work Teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Year 2015</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juarez</td>
<td>Sep 9 - Sep 15</td>
<td>Cheryl Herrman <a href="mailto:cherrmann@frontier.com">cherrmann@frontier.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical</td>
<td>Jan 9 - 16</td>
<td>Bruce Frank 217-375-4346 <a href="mailto:bfrank@ksiconveyors.com">bfrank@ksiconveyors.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalena</td>
<td>Feb 6 - 13</td>
<td>Troy Lanz 217-202-5959 <a href="mailto:troy@lanzinc.com">troy@lanzinc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalena</td>
<td>Feb 13 - 20</td>
<td>Jon Baner 309-532-9435 <a href="mailto:jon.baner@gmail.com">jon.baner@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalena</td>
<td>Mar 5 - 12</td>
<td>Gabe Meiss ISU 309-222-7819 <a href="mailto:gabe.meiss@gmail.com">gabe.meiss@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalena</td>
<td>Mar 19 - 26</td>
<td>Dean Sinn Silverton Bible Class 503-873-4622 <a href="mailto:deansinn@yahoo.com">deansinn@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalena</td>
<td>Mar 26 - Apr 2</td>
<td>Greg Moser Roanoke Jr/Sr Sunday School 309-923-5791 <a href="mailto:gsmoser@hotmail.com">gsmoser@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalena</td>
<td>Apr 2 - 9</td>
<td>Joe Beer Leo Bible Class <a href="mailto:jhever@gmail.com">jhever@gmail.com</a> 260-466-5461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalena</td>
<td>Jun 11 - 18</td>
<td>Jeff Stoller Morton Bible Class 309-202-6468 <a href="mailto:drjeff@alotlierdds.com">drjeff@alotlierdds.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalena</td>
<td>Jun 18 - 25</td>
<td>Jim Rieker Peoria Bible Class 309-231-7400 <a href="mailto:jriekestemple@gmail.com">jriekestemple@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduling Questions?</td>
<td>Contact Mike Fiechter <a href="mailto:mfiechter@onlyinternet.net">mfiechter@onlyinternet.net</a> 260-597-7330</td>
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Project Year

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<tr>
<td>Hospital Lumiere</td>
<td>Jul 18-25</td>
<td>David Zimmerman <a href="mailto:dlzimm4@hotmail.com">dlzimm4@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Lumiere</td>
<td>Aug 22-29</td>
<td>David Zimmerman <a href="mailto:dlzimm4@hotmail.com">dlzimm4@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>2-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Lumiere</td>
<td>Oct 3-10</td>
<td>David Zimmerman <a href="mailto:dlzimm4@hotmail.com">dlzimm4@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>8-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Lumiere</td>
<td>Nov 28-Dec 5</td>
<td>David Zimmerman <a href="mailto:dlzimm4@hotmail.com">dlzimm4@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>8-10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Updated 10/17/14
Medical Director Needed at Hospital Lumiere

If you are a licensed physician with a God-inspired desire to provide medical care and leadership in an under-served part of Haiti, this may be the opportunity of a lifetime.

The Need
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To fill this full-time position, one must have a U.S. medical license, be Board-Certified in some aspect of medicine or surgery, be a Believer in Jesus Christ, have experience in leadership and management, be capable of learning the Creole language, and be willing to reside with your family on the Hospital Lumiere campus for up to five years. The position involves leading a team of excellent Haitian physicians and surgeons, and oversight of the nursing, laboratory, radiology and pharmacy departments of this 120-bed full-service hospital and out-patient facility.

For more information contact:
Robert Beebe
Executive Director
robert.beebe1@gmail.com
574-276-6748

Patient Care Manager Needed at Hospital Lumiere

Hospital Lumiere is seeking a qualified person to be assigned as Patient Care Manager of the hospital in Bonne Fin, Haiti. This is full-time position.

Description
The duties of Patient Care Manager include planning, supervising & training employees and coordinating & implementing programs of nursing care for all hospital patients.

Requirements
Applicants should hold an RN degree and have at least 3 years of nursing experience, some management capability, be able to learn the Creole language, be a member of the Apostolic Christian Church and be willing to relocate to Haiti for a term of up to 5 years.

For more information contact:
Robert Beebe
Executive Director
robert.beebe1@gmail.com
574-276-6748
ACCFS has a host of resources on various topics to encourage a believer in their walk and growth in the Lord. They range from adapted Bible studies and discussion aids for groups to individual papers and handouts for personal study to presentations and seminars for the entire church family. These resources can be found on our website at www.accounseling.org/spiritualgrowth. If you would like more information, please contact ACCFS at (309)263-5536 or info@accounseling.org.

Light from the Word

Light from the Word is now available by downloadable PDF from the Apostolic Christian Publication website: www.acpublications.org

After entering the website, click on the item located at the left hand frame entitled, “Light from the Word Reprints”. The entire set of editorials are available in a complete download (June 1987 to current).

Give a Child Hope

Those in the child sponsorship program have several things in common. They are very poor, desire to learn and they have an undying soul.

The goal of this program is to provide an education to help these children learn life skills to improve their standard of living, and also to provide spiritual training to address the true need...the need for a knowledge of and a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children. Isaiah 54:13

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Volunteer Caretakers Needed – Washington, D.C.

The Washington, D.C. church caretaker program is entering its eighth year. It has been such a blessing for our visiting caretakers as well as our local members and friends. We are taking reservations for 2016. Our church home is located in Silver Spring, MD, and meets both church and residential needs.

The fellowship that caretakers provide is vital to our small congregation and visiting ministers. Caretakers can be couples, singles or families who would enjoy spending time near the Nation's Capitol and other points of interest on the East Coast. Caretakers would perform routine household and yard maintenance chores, and should plan to stay at least three Sundays.

Families with children are urged to give this opportunity prayerful consideration. We have three children (pre-teen and teen), who would welcome other children in their Sunday School class.

For more information, please contact:
Barry and Doreen Steffen
Phone: 302-540-6574
Email: dkgsteffen@gmail.com.

Teacher Needed – Athens Preschool

There is currently a teaching position available at the Apostolic Christian Preschool in Athens, AL. We are looking for a preschool teacher who is willing to start in June of 2015. This is a wonderful opportunity to support one of our smaller congregations.

This is a paid position with medical benefits. Church housing is available. Applicants must be at least 19 years old and be a member of the Apostolic Christian Church. Basic computer skills are necessary.

If you have questions contact Sis. Kalla Knobloch at (309) 231-1755.
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Doctrinal Principles

—Continued from pg. 3

allowing us to overcome the sin that would otherwise reign in our lives.

The second coming of Christ to claim His own is the final doctrinal principle we will consider. At this time the resurrection of the just and the unjust will occur. Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation. Scripture is clear that man will either receive the mercy or the judgement of God in eternity depending on the choices we make in this life. Those who believe and live an overcoming life are not condemned but will pass from death into life. How regrettable is the plight of the unbelieving, unrepentant sinner at this time! The bodies of the lost are resurrected, but only to hear their judgment at the great white throne and to be cast into the eternal lake of fire to be tormented with the Devil and his angels.

On the other hand, the resurrection of the just is a wonderful event when our body lying in the grave will change and become a new body and rejoin with our living soul. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. Those believers who are still alive at this time will be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. A wonderful and indescribable culmination of faith and hope accompanies this miraculous event as the redeemed look forward to an eternity of joy unspeakable and full of glory with our risen Lord and Savior in heaven. Only then, will we truly comprehend the depth and fullness of God’s love:

“Oh, love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong! It shall forevermore endure--the saints and angels’ song.”

Footnotes

1 Rom. 5:17
2 Psa. 119:160; 19:7-8
3 2 Tim 3:15
4 1 Tim. 6:19
5 Neh. 9:6
6 1 John 5:7
7 Isa 6:3
8 1 Pet 1:16
9 Rom. 5:12
10 Isa. 59:2
11 Lev 9:7
12 Lev 17:11
13 Heb. 10:1
14 1 Sam. 15:22
15 Heb. 8:6
16 John 5:28-29
17 John 5:24, John 3:18, Gal. 6:7-8, Rom. 8:1, Rev. 2:7,11
18 Rev. 20:11, 13, 14; Mat. 25:41
19 1 Cor. 15:44
20 1 Thess. 4:17
21 1 Pet. 1:8
22 Hymns of Zion #289

“For He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” Heb. 13:5
Continued Articles

Studying the Bible
— Continued from pg. 9

in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.”

Meditation for Christians is focusing our minds on God and His Word. Meditation starts by dwelling on the words we read and asking questions that stir our curiosity. For example, “What does this passage mean? How do the surrounding verses help me understand this passage? What does this teach me about God? What does this teach me about man? How does this passage fit in the context of the entire narrative of the Bible?” Meditation includes, but is not limited to, memorization. Meditation requires that we slow down and seek to understand the meaning of the passage by letting the Scriptures teach and change us. This is in contrast to using Scripture to confirm what we already think or desire. Meditation is about letting the Scripture rule us and conform us to be more like Christ and the Word. We see God more accurately while coming to grips with who we are apart from His mercy.

An example of Meditation: Take five minutes to slowly read Psalm 1 as many times as possible. Then take five minutes to ponder these verses. Consider asking basic questions, such as, “What are these verses teaching?” or, “What distinguishes the godly from the ungodly?” Finally, take an additional five minutes to read and pray through the Psalm once again. Read each verse and then turn to the Lord in prayer. Keep the prayer focused on the thoughts, desires, and questions the verse creates. At the end of this exercise 15 minutes will have been spent meditating on Psalm 1.

Application. James 2:18 “Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.”

It might be difficult to see this aspect of Bible study come last, but it is essential application of the Word does not come before the previous concepts. While application is necessary, it is not first. We can quickly misapply Bible verses if we have not taken the time to first understand them. With many Bible passages the application is abundantly clear while some other passages require more diligent study to understand how to appropriately move into action. If we jump too quickly into action, we can move into application of what we thought a verse was teaching only to find out later we misunderstood the verse or did not take into account other passages of Scripture.

First, we must understand the verse, and then we must seek wisdom to apply appropriately. For some passages (the Ten Commandments, et. al.) the application is universal for all situations in all times. However, there are other teachings such as Galatians 6 where we are instructed both to “Bear ye one another’s burdens …” (v.2) and “For every man shall bear his own burden” (v.5). Discerning the difference between these verses and how to apply these two instructions in our current situation takes studying the Scripture and seeking wisdom to know when and how to do both.

Studying the Bible is a wonderful privilege. It is meant to change us and help us more fully see, worship, and know our great God. Be encouraged to study the Word! The Bible is so rich and deep the simplest mind can understand its teachings and yet the most sophisticated mind can never exhaust it.

Psalm 119:97 “O how love I thy law! It is my meditation all the day.”
“I See Jesus”  
— Continued from pg. 6

fifteen years ago had left her alone to provide for herself. It was a struggle, but she did the best she could. “Seeing God work in people, that has restored my faith that I had really almost lost,” is Yolanda’s testimony. “It makes it more special to know that God always had His eye on me and I wasn’t abandoned and I wasn’t an orphan, that I have a Father, and I have a husband and I have Jesus…and I’ve never been alone…I just can’t believe how much He’s done!”

“For He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.”  
Heb. 13:5

Making Disciples...
— Continued from pg. 7

good enough. Then toss in the fact that the culture around them glamorizes and embraces so many immoral and unhealthy lifestyles and vices and without anyone explaining in their own language the deeper truths, you can pretty easily see how our Deaf teens become confused and don’t know what to do with their life. There is a great deal of talent and gifting that God has given these young people but they struggle to see themselves as being fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of God.

In January a short-term ministry team from Gridley spent a week fellowshipping and serving alongside of our team in Kingston. One day they took the teen boys on a field trip to rural Jamaica to meet a Deaf man who has a small farm where he grows and roasts his own coffee. The students were intrigued seeing a Deaf man do this and so we began teaching them to roast coffee on the school campus with a roaster donated by someone from Gridley. Later we began brewing the coffee and serving visitors, which turned into experimenting with an espresso machine. In March we opened a café on the campus of CCCD and have begun training them in operating a micro-business. The teens are excited and engaged and beginning to believe in the abilities God has given them, and through this realization, they are being exposed to the true claims of God’s word, that He made them wonderfully and loves them and desires them to know the truth. Considering the negative environment the students grow up in, it’s no wonder the café has been named Deaf Can! Coffee, in order to emphasize the ability and the belief that they can.

It’s a very small venture right now, and hard to say where God will take it, and yes, it has taken years to get to this point, but we continue to press on toward our vision of glorifying God by our obedience and love one for another with the hope that by doing this He will add the increase and transform lives. We invite the broader church body to participate with us in this ministry. Pray for stewardship, learning and impact. Partner by giving of your business expertise or financial support. Pay us a visit in Kingston and experience Deaf Can!

Little do we understand how God can use our weak efforts to encourage and restore the faith of those we serve. We are called to be salt and light in this dark world. The rest is in His hands. To God be the Glory, GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE!
all to pray, intercede, supplication, and giving thanks. So when we find or think about all of these things that are authority over us, it helps us see or think about who we are and where we fit. It’s not important at all really where we think we are on some rung of a ladder, but what’s really, really, really important is that we fit in God’s Word and understand the authorities around us, be it municipalities and powers or the church or God. We didn’t even talk about families yet. We’ll talk maybe more about that as we read some of the other verses.

The Bible tells us very clearly to pray for them and be in subjection to those things, and that helps us find our place. We all can fit, beautifully, as the body of Christ, as the church, loving one another, working together, fitly joined together. We fit. Fitly joined together means it fits, it works, we’re seeing the needs of each other, and we’re finding our place. We’re not trying to be out of place. We’re not trying to be different. We’re not trying to push the envelope. We’re not trying to resist authority. Christ was the perfect example.

The big difference between Him and us is that if He had resisted authority, He could have. We can attempt to resist authority, but for the most part we really can’t. It just becomes a matter of pride and resistance and rebellion, and it just generates conflict. It doesn’t really give us more authority or power or influence. It just creates conflict. Then we’ve missed the point of praying and interceding and being thankful.

Is this important? Well, here are some results — “that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.” Sounds like a goal. Sounds like a desired state to live “a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.” A peaceable life doesn’t necessarily mean that there aren’t going to be conflicts and struggles, but at least there aren’t going to be those that we’ve created. A peaceable life. Peace does not necessarily mean that there’s peace around us. It means there’s peace within us. It doesn’t mean that it’s going to be quiet around us, but we’re quiet within us. A quiet and peaceable life, calm, not overreacting.

Why? Because we’re fitly joined together, because we’ve taken our place, and we’ve submitted to all the authorities that are around us in all godliness and honesty. That’s what it brings — godliness and honesty.

Honesty is sort of a simple thing, or it’s sort of a hard thing. But, we know the beauty of it, don’t we? Just always tell the truth. That’s what we do because that’s what God has said to do. He’s taught us, and we’ve learned that’s the only thing that works and that brings godliness. “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;” (v.3) So it’s a good way to live, but much more importantly, it’s “good and acceptable in the sight of God.” We all want to be acceptable and do those things that are good according to God.

“Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.” (v.4) He desires that. We can pray for them. We can pray for the believers. We can pray for the unbelievers. We can pray for the person that annoys us, irritates us, causes conflict for us, makes life difficult, seems to be in our way and whatever it is, is stubborn or whatever circumstance. You pick yours, think about what that is. He desires that person can be saved. We can, by the grace of God, do our part to submit to those authorities, those situations, those circumstances that feel like we don’t have control over, because we really don’t. Or maybe we do, but shouldn’t. Just because we can control doesn’t mean we should. I was told one time the word ‘can’ is a very dangerous word. I thought about that a lot. Because we can doesn’t mean we should in any aspect of life.
“For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.” (v.5-6) One God, one mediator. The reaction to that verse in our hearts may be, that’s obvious, we know that to be true. If we sit here tonight and simply know that there’s one God and one mediator, Jesus Christ, then we have a lot of faith. We have a really solid belief. So the things we may be struggling with or wondering about or deciding about or thinking what do we do next and how does that work and something else, those are difficult and we’re working through those, but let’s take what we know and what we do and what we have. We believe. We have faith. There is one God. There is one mediator which is Jesus Christ. We trust Him, and we believe Him. We desire to obey Him. We believe that in our heart. There’s really not much reservation or doubt. Oh, there may be sometimes we wonder, but really, really we just believe it. So we can take that and apply it to so many aspects of our life. If we can believe Him and trust Him and obey Him here, then can we believe Him and trust Him and obey Him there?

“Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.” (v.7) So maybe this was about Paul that he was a preacher and an apostle. Maybe it’s about us because we’re out and about speaking the truth in Christ and lie not. Then he says, a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity. Lie not, in verity, in truth, in pureness. You’ve heard it said, preach the Gospel wherever you go, and if you must, use words. Preach the Gospel wherever you go, and if you must, use words.

The preaching of the Gospel is going to be much more about what people see and what they hear and what they feel from us through God, or what they don’t see or don’t hear or don’t feel meaning they’re seeing humility in the power of the Spirit of God. They’re not seeing pride, resistance, and self-will. They’re seeing, as it says here, the truth in Christ and lie not — preaching or teaching in faith, verity, our life telling stories that we never speak, making statements that we never say, and providing strength and blessing that we know nothing of because that’s God taking the pureness of our heart. We’ve brought every thought and action into subjection, every word into subjection. We’ve obeyed every authority. We’ve humbled ourselves before God and His Word and those around us. We’ve done it with gladness and joy, in truth and in verity, the truth of Christ who humbled Himself in obedience to the cross.

“I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.” (v.8) So we pray about everything. We have a prayer everywhere we go. When the Bible says, pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17), be instant, be constant in prayer (Romans 12:12), it helps us understand that everywhere we go, we pray or have a prayer on our heart desiring the mind of Christ, desiring to have truth and verity and living out the Word of God and Christ Himself, that we lie not, that there’s not an inconsistency, that there’s not an inconsistent message, but that we are submitted to God and the authorities around us without wrath, without doubting. If we are truly thankful for all men, we will not experience or exercise wrath. We’ve probably all had the experience of a little bit of ill will toward someone or something. A little bit of ill will toward something or someone you might say is the first stage of wrath. It’s the first state of hatred. It’s the first stage of condemnation. All those negative things you might think about, so without wrath we pray and without doubting. I’m — Please turn to pg. 68
sure you feel challenged like I do — without doubting.

Let’s look at what God has given us. As we sit here tonight together, we have the moment that we are worshipping together. We can look backward, and we can look forward. As we look backward, we can give thanks. We can rejoice! We can identify the blessings of God and how He’s worked in our lives. We can look back to a point in time when it wasn’t clear and it didn’t make sense and we struggled a lot and now it’s answered. Or we thought it should go a certain way and it went a different way, but we can see how it’s even better than what we had thought. Think about those. Think about the faithfulness of God as we look backward! If God has been faithful to us ‘til now, will He be faithful in the future? Yes or no.

“Without wrath and without doubting”. So we want to encourage one another to trust God. We want to ask God to help us trust Him. It starts with being thankful, praying for all men, and submitting to authority, putting ourselves in the rightful place because if we resist authority then we will naturally resist God. When we resist God, we won’t trust in Him. When we don’t trust in Him, we won’t have the faith to believe He’ll take care of us. We’ll doubt and be filled with wrath. It’s not what we want, is it?

It speaks of men, speaks of women. He speaks of apparel - what we wear. He speaks of shamefacedness — how we act. He speaks of sobriety. He cares about how we act, how we look, how we appear, and the attitudes we have behind that. He cares about that! He says it’s not those things, but what is it? It’s those things “…(which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.” (v.10) He’s commanding that.

He talks about women being in subjection to the men. Those verses that follow are much more about the men than they are about the women. Oh, the verses talk about what the women should do, but it’s in the context of what the men should do. So the men need to be in subjection even more so than the women. The men need to be in submission to the authority of God and to the Word so that the women can fulfill the Word of God. The men must lay out the expectation that the women can be shamefaced and properly adorned and properly appareled and behave in a certain way. Yes, it’s the women’s responsibility, but the bigger accountability and responsibility falls to the men to encourage and to expect, because God gives us that responsibility.

Therefore, the women can take their place if we’re taking ours. They can be comfortable in subjection because what we ask and what we do and how we behave is of the Lord. It’s submitting to authority, and it’s right and it’s peaceable and it’s calm and it’s fitting together. We were formed first. Adam was formed first; the woman was deceived. (v.13-14) Brothers, it gives us a lot of responsibility, a lot of obligation so that the sisters can fulfill their godly responsibility.

Most of the time in life, when we find ourselves wanting to point - ‘I wonder why they or this or that isn’t…’, it’s probably us. It’s probably our attitude, our behavior, our need of adjustment. Brothers, the responsibility for sisters to fulfill these Scriptures lays on us.

“Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.” (v.15) I’m not sure who “they” is. “They” could be the women, but “they” could be us together. “They”, meaning husbands
Monthly Sermon
— Continued from pg. 68
and wives, shall be saved in childbearing. The women would be saved in childbearing if “they”, meaning husbands and wives, continue in faith and charity and holiness and sobriety. It’s about us together, working together, to serve one another because when that happens, we all fit together and God is glorified. There’s calm, there’s peace, there’s hope, there’s promise, and there’s inspiration. It’s not about darkness; it’s about the light. It’s about the Word, each of us fulfilling the Word and allowing the authority of God to work in our lives. Then He adds the blessing for each one of us.

Small Church Profile: Ft. Scott, KS
—Continued from pg. 8
those in the printing industry. Two colleges—Ft. Scott Community college (2 year college) and Pittsburgh State (4 year college) are located in the area, and some from the congregation attend school to obtain degrees in engineering and nursing.

The town of Ft. Scott today remains a national historic site and also has one of 147 US national cemeteries. About 8,000 people live in the quaint town that has brick streets, Victorian houses and lots of trees. The bigger cities of Kansas City and Joplin, Missouri are located 80 miles north and 60 south, respectively.

If you would like to visit the Ft. Scott congregation, please see information in the Minister Book.

Remembering
—Continued from pg. 70
to it. When he returned to the state church it’s obvious that he and Samuel Froehlich no longer associated together as Froehlich’s work was dedicated to the new church denomination he established called The Evangelical Baptist Church (in Switzerland), and eventually the Apostolic Christian Church in America.

-By Perry Klopfenstein

Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee. Neh. 9:6
The Man Who Baptized Samuel Froehlich

When Bro. Samuel Froehlich turned to the Lord in repentance he was still a member of the Swiss Protestant State church as a ministerial candidate. He had lost confidence, however, in that institution and had been floundering spiritually.

He had become quite ill and was unsure if he would live. As he lay on his sickbed, he heard the call of God. It was neither bold or loud, but it came to him as a whisper that said, “It cannot remain thus with thee. Thou must change.”

With this calling, he turned to God in repentance and sorrow for his sins, and began anew in Christ Jesus. He writes that he sought the Lord with all his heart. This change from his former life became an intense struggle. He had no spiritual mentors. He felt very lowly in God’s sight. He cried out to God “in lonesome places” — in his closet, and in the mountains. Inner turmoil lingered as the old life and the new life battled within him. Finally, after six months of spiritual conflict, God spoke peace to his heart.

Bro. Froehlich’s explicit pathways henceforth — from receiving peace with God until his baptism — are a bit sketchy, but as time unfolded he was baptized by a man named Ami Bost. This man had departed from the state church previously and was an acquaintance of Bro. Froehlich. Because Bro. Froehlich now had no church home, and the Apostolic Christian Church was not yet formed, it turned out that Ami Bost baptized him.

He was baptized, in this instance, by sprinkling. At this point, he was not “studied” in the question of baptismal mode, and consented to be sprinkled. He later came to strongly embrace the belief in baptism by immersion, and his spiritual descendants (in the Apostolic Christian Church) still practice this mode.

Bro. Froehlich, although coming to eventually believe in baptism by immersion, never had himself re-baptized by immersion. He cited the verse in Ephesians 4:5, that teaches, “One Lord, one faith, one baptism.”

Pastor Ami Bost (1790-1874), after fleeing the state church, did evangelical work in various areas of Switzerland and in this endeavor encountered Samuel Froehlich. He had left the state church around 1819. He was thirteen years older than Froehlich. He (Pastor Bost) had previously been a ministerial candidate in Geneva. After leaving the state church, he became associated with the Continental Society in London, and worked as a revival missionary for that society in Switzerland. He was also a part of what is historically known as the “Reveil,” a revival movement that swept into Switzerland in 1814 and henceforth. This movement had a much more evangelical tone than the less fervent patterns found in the state church. Froehlich, too, was influenced, in part, by the Reveil Movement. But he operated independently of it. There was indeed a thirst for biblical truth in Switzerland during that era, due to the casual and apostate-like conditions found in the state church.

Bost was one of the principal writers in the Reveil (revival) Movement. He wrote pamphlets of a “polemic” nature, that is, documents that were contentious and highly affirmative. He wrote books, and did translations. He also wrote his Memoirs which are considered to be a helpful contribution to the history of the religious revival of the Protestant Churches, both in Switzerland, and in France.

Surprisingly, Ami Bost later returned to the Swiss Protestant State Church, and served as a pastor of several congregations, and later as a prison chaplain. He was a man of strong opinion, and apparently was prone to changing his outlook as noted by his leaving the state church, and eventually returning.

— Please turn to pg. 69
The Light of Hope

Editor’s Note: Forty-five years ago, Willis Ehmle began voluntarily sending articles into the Silver Lining. (In those days, the editors depended on brethren submitting content, as so moved, to fill each issue.) That eventually turned into a regular monthly column from a missionary’s perspective, which came known as “The Light of Hope.” Although Willis is showing no signs of slowing down, with his support, we decided it would be good to begin periodically featuring guest writers, all of whom are currently serving in other countries.

Putting Pride in Its Place

How does God define “pride” in His Word? The essence of pride is failing to glorify God and to give Him thanks, worshipping the creature rather than the Creator (Rom. 1:21-25). Pride is described as thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought (Rom. 12:3); thinking ourselves to be something, when we are nothing (Gal. 6:3); thinking we know more than we really do (1 Cor. 8:2). Pride is being high-minded and wise in our own conceits (Rom. 12:16). Pride is being desirous of vainglory (Gal. 5:26). Pride is boasting and taking credit for the good in our lives, rather than acknowledging it comes from God (1 Cor. 4:7).

The theme of sinful pride runs throughout Holy Scriptures. Pride has been around since the beginning, when Lucifer was lifted up with pride against God and cast out of heaven (Is. 14:12-15). Satan wasted no time in tempting Eve with the same sin (Gen. 3:5-6). Pride’s devastating effects are seen in individuals, such as Saul (1 Sam. 15:17), Uzziah (1 Chron. 26:16), Haman (Book of Esther), Nebuchadnezzar (Dan. 4), Balshazzar (Dan. 5), and Herod (Acts 12:21-23). The Bible makes it clear that God puts down cities and nations that lift themselves up in pride (see for example Ezek. 16:49; Matt. 11:23). Pride will be present even in the last days of tribulation, when men stubbornly refuse to repent and glorify God (Rev. 16:9).

Pride seems to be one of the sins “that doth so easily beset us” (Heb. 12:1). The temptation of pride plagues the new believer as well as the mature Christian. It threatens the minister on the pulpit along with the listener in the pew. It intrudes into the heart of the sister who is a keeper at home, and trails down the brother who goes off to work. Moving to a different country to serve as a missionary does not solve the problem. Borrowing the words of Ps. 139:9, “If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the utmost parts of the sea”, even there I cannot escape from the presence of pride!

Recognizing that of ourselves we are unable to get rid of pride may be the beginning of humility. We are faced with a decision. We can throw up our hands and say, “Oh well, there’s no hope for me to be humble.” Or, we can fall to our knees before Jesus, who said, “Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls” (Matt. 11:28-29). Only Christ can remove the burden of pride from our souls and teach us to be lowly in heart. Who could be a better teacher than the One who was equal with God, yet “made himself of no reputation… humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross” (Phil. 2:7-8).

In Christ’s school, we can view humility as a gradual process rather than a destination. This will help us avoid discouragement and false humility. We can study the theme of pride and humility, meditating on what God says about it. We can express praise to God, confessing to others that everything good in our lives comes from Him. We can pray daily for humility, trusting that in our weakness “He giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble” (James 4:6).

-Submitted by Matt Gerber, Ixtlan, MX
“…things which are too wonderful for me…
the way of an eagle in the air…”

Prov. 30:18-19